



Manhattan Community Board 9

Serving Hamilton Heights, Manhattanville and Morningside Heights

SENIOR ISSUES COMMITTEE MINUTES

TUESDAY, March 7, 2017

Committee Members

Hon. Reverend Georgiette Morgan-Thomas, Chair, **Present**

Hon. Anthony Fletcher, **Present**; Hon. Martin Wallace, **Present**

Public Members

G. Wanda Capan, **Present** Laenoria Conyers, **Excused**; Bessie Davis, **Present**; Inez Woodhouse, **Present**; Cora Gilmore, **Present**; Ruther Miller, **Excused**; Lillian Doctor, **Present**

Other Attendees: Lucille Bordie, Ameenah Muhammad, Leonard Bonanno, Alethia Brown, Iris Arce, Verna Arthur, DFTA, Anne Payne.

The meeting was held on Tuesday, February 7th, 2017 at the George Bruce Library, 518 West 125th Street, New York, 10027.

Reverend Georgiette Morgan-Thomas called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.; welcome everyone and introduced the speakers.

The Agenda was adopted as it is and minutes were accepted with necessary corrections to be submitted to the district office.

Updates/Reports:

West Harlem Development Corporation:

Dean Morris, Director of Programs stated that West Harlem Development Corporation will host its 5th Summer Senior Employment Program this summer and there will be several information sessions in April to provide information about the program, requirements and the process. The program offers summer jobs to West Harlem residents 55 years and older with basic computer skills and willing to work for 20 hours a week. The Summer Senior Employment Program offers eleven dollars (\$11) per hour taxable wage and the program makes sure that selected seniors are placed in organizations/businesses within the district to avoid participant traveling too far. West Harlem Development Corporation provides a Readiness Skill Training Center located at 500 West 134th Street and Amsterdam Avenue. The Readiness Skill Training Center started in September 2016 to assist the unemployed or underemployed with job placement and training.

WHDC Summer Senior Employment Programs' target is to place 100 seniors for the summer. Dean Morris stated that West Harlem Development Corporation runs a "I Rise" Youth Summer Program for youth ages 14 to 18 years old, and the program provides education and work components to assist youth with their school work and enhancement of their job skill. WHDC has partnered with Our Children's Foundation located at 527 West 125th Street. A flyer regarding "I Rise" Youth Summer Employment Program was distributed.

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Old Business:

Chair Reverend Morgan-Thomas stated that the Committee a letter in opposing the budget cuts for senior services was sent to Governor Cuomo, and the State hasn't voted on the budget as of yet. The committee will continue to advocate for senior services, and May 2nd the committee will host an Affordable Senior . Housing Forum to address the development of a 202 housing within the district. NYC Housing Preservation and Development [HPD], US Housing Urban and Development, Harlem Congregation for Community Improvement [HCCI] and other community based organizations were invited to participate in this forum

Suggestions:

Send invitation letters to the following:

- Public Advocate Letitia James
- Victoria Mason-Ailey to give an update on Columbia Shuttle
- Invite someone to present on Medicare Benefits

Announcements:

- Free AARP Income Tax Preparation at the Hamilton Grange Public Library; March 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th; April 4th, 11th and 18th 2017 from 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the community room on the lower level

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 P.M.

Note: The next meeting is Tuesday, April 7th, 2017 George Bruce Library, 518 West 125th Street

Prepared by: Hleziphi Zita, Community Associate