SENIOR ISSUES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2013

Committee Members:
Ernestine Welch, Chair, Present; Tiffany Alston, Present; Anthony Fletcher, Present;
Carole Singleton, Present;

Public Members:
Wanda Capan, Present; Laenoria Conyers, Present; Bessie Davis, Present; Cora
Gilmore, Present; Ruther Miller, Excused;
Inez Woodhouse, Present; Lillian Doctor, Present;

Other Attendees Present:
Chenele Mclean, Ryan/Thelma Adair Community Health Center, Verna Arthur,
Department For The Aging, Jully Merino, Columbia University, Jewel Johnson, Yvonne
L. Hazel, Vivian Jones, Dee Dee Halleck, Emma Roby, Norma Gomez, Jackie Robinson
Senior Center, Ginia Addo, Jael Sanchez, Linda Guy, Senator Perkins’ Office, Ameenah
Muhammad, Dominique Lynch, Council Member Dickens’ Office, Lucille Boddie,
Lucinda Blackwell, Corey Ortega, Vanessa Carrion, Brandon Cherry, Ellen Rice,
Amsterdam Adult Day Care, Victoria Mason-Ailey, Columbia University
Zonia Bucknor,

The meeting was held on Tuesday, May 7, 2013 at the George Bruce Library, 518 West
125th Street, New York, NY 10027

Ernestine Welch, Chair called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

The agenda was adopted and the minutes were accepted.

Comment/ Comentario:
Reverend Georgiette Morgan-Thomas, Chair of Community Board No. 9 Manhattan
Gave greetings to seniors in celebration of Older American’s Month and thank them for
their contribution to community. She stated that seniors should continue to advocate and
work hard in addressing issues that impact older adults; she wish all in attendance a
Happy Mother’s Day.
Report/Reports:

Columbia University, Office of Government & Community Affairs:
Victoria Mason-Ailey, Associate Vice President for Planning and Community Affairs gave an update on the Columbia Shuttle Bus.
- Distributed a revised sample schedule for the shuttle bus.
- The final bus schedule will be available in September 2013.
- Shuttle buses will have a decal picture that shows a dog, wheelchair, and people.
- Only one shuttle bus will be running during the summer time.

OEM, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Member:
Carole Singleton stated that the following are vital things to have during an emergency:
- A Go Bag
- Copies of all the important documents in a waterproof and portable container such as (social security, insurance cards, birth certificates, photo ID’s, proof address, deeds, bank cards, credit cards, etc.)
- Extra set of house or car keys.
- Flash light
- Can opener, non-perishable items, bottle of water, hygiene items, short wave radio, batteries, wipes for babies, medication.
- Phone that doesn’t rely on electricity
- Iodine tablets or one quarter of unscented bleach (for disinfecting water ONLY if directed to do so by health officials) eyedropper (for adding bleach to water)

West Harlem Development Corporation:
Kofi Boateng, Executive Director stated that the corporation duty is to translate the Community Benefit Agreement to the community. In March WHDC launched a grant drive and gave 2 million dollars to 83 non-profit organizations in Harlem to improve quality of life in the community. A grant award ceremony was dedicated in honor of the late beloved community advocate, Patricia Arlene Jones which took place at Our Children’s Foundation located at 527 West 125th Street.

Elected Officials/Representatives:
New York City Council Member Robert Jackson, District 7 introduced his staff member Jael Sanchez, a Community Liaison for his office at 425 West 144th Street Office. He stated that he attended a memorial service for Lyn Brooks, a senior citizen who passed away and was instrumental in forming the Apple Greeter a volunteer organization which is globally recognized. He went on to give thanks to all seniors for working hard in developing and fighting for a better community such as Sadie Winslow, Ernestine Welch, Sarah Martin to name a few.

Linda Guy, Community Relations, Senator Bill Perkins’ Office stated that Senator Perkins’ is in Albany and couldn’t attend but he sent his warmest greeting to all in celebration of Older Americans’ Month and Mother’s Day. [see attached]
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Dominique Lynch, Community Liaison, Council Member Dickens’ Office stated that she attended Harlem Mother’s Parade and was honored by Bishop Pitts, President of Harlem Mother’s organization.

Announcement:
  i. Saturday, June 1st Manhattan Community Board No. 9 presents the 2nd Annual “Healthy Mind, Body and Soul Fair”, Old Broadway [between 125th & 126th Streets], 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
  ii. Senator Bill Perkins’ is hosting Aging Healthy in Harlem, Thursday, May 16th, 2013, 163 West 125th Street, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Adjournment: 2:00 p.m.

*Refreshment was provided, and many thanks to the following businesses for their contribution in celebration of Older Americans’ Month:
  i. Vine Sushi Restaurant, 2955 Broadway
  ii. Mill Korean Restaurant, 2895 Broadway
  iii. Massawa Restaurant, 1239 Amsterdam Avenue
  iv. Westside Market NYC, 2840 Broadway

Prepared by: Hlezphi Zita, Community Associate
May 7, 2013

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen of the Manhattan Community Board Nine Senior Committee,

It gives me great pleasure to extend my warmest wishes and heartfelt greetings to you today. For May is Older Adults’ Month and Sunday is Mother’s Day. Nothing I have done of value would have been possible without the support of so many of you, and nothing worthwhile that anyone ever does, is accomplished without the love and support of their mother.

I have had the good fortune and blessing, of many of you treating me almost as if I were your own son, and this is something that always sustains me and makes me try ever harder to do what’s right, what’s best for you and our community.

Staying focused is never easy anywhere, but thanks to you, I always have the motivation to do the best that I can.

So thank you again, for all you have done, for all that you do still. There is much yet to be done, but in our community we have an example of what it is possible to accomplish with dedication, that’s second to none.

Sincerely,

Senator Bill Perkins,
30th District
Aging Healthy in Harlem:
A Free Community Festival with Fun, Food and Facts for Seniors

In recognition of Older Americans Month, please join Senator Bill Perkins and experts from the Visiting Nurse Service of New York for a celebration of our seniors.

FREE HEALTHY FOOD TASTING PROVIDED BY:
Red Rooster, Melba’s, Freda’s Caribbean & Soul Cuisine, Sylvia’s, Gran Piatto d’Oro, Chocolat Restaurant Lounge, Spoonbread and many more.

Thursday, May 16th, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (rain or shine)

Adam Clayton Powell Jr.
State Office Building Plaza
163 W. 125th Street, New York, NY 10027

RSVP:
Call Harrison Reboy at 212-861-7478 or email Harrison.Reboy@Morris-King.com
Space is limited.

- Free Blood Pressure Screening
- Free BMI Screening
- Free Gift Bags
- Live Music
- Free Manicures By The Capital District Educational Opportunity Center
- Poetry Reading By Maxine McCrey
- Spoken Word By The Last Poet’s Abiodun Oyewole
- Swing Dance Lessons by June Terry
- Performance By Singer Sophie L. Coffee
- Dance Lessons By Harlem Soul-Line Dance Party’s Peggy Ruffin

Opportunity to submit your favorite recipe for consideration to be included in a new Healthy Harlem Community Cookbook.