

CB9M Senior Action Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 5, 2023 @ 11:00 a.m.
CB9M District Office, 3295 Broadway, NYC

Attendees (In Person or Via Zoom):

Hon. Walter Alexander, Hon. Carlton Davis, Co-Chairs, Senior Action Committee:

Senior Action Committee & CB9M Members: Hon. Victor Edwards, CB9M Board Chair; Hon. Patricia Caldwell; Hon. Elizabeth Eastman; Hon. Lydia Gerson; Hon. Heather Jason; Hon. Francina Waring; Hon. Patricia Watler-Johnson; Ms. Madison Ayala, CB9M Staff.

Community Guests & Stakeholders: Ms. Verna V. Arthur, NYC Aging; Ms. Alicia Barksdale; Ms. Jemberlyn Batista, NMIC; Ms. Patricia DeVone; Ms. Irema Fletcher; Ms. Theodora Gilbert, Ms. Naomi Goldberg Haas, Dances for a Variable Population; Ms. Jacqueline Greene, Jackie Robinson Older Adult Center; Mr. Will Haggis, George Bruce Library, NYPL; Mr. William Hamer, Harlem Advocates for Seniors; Ms. Syreena Howard, The Dream Center; Ms. Japheth Parrish-Wright, Office of NYS Assemblywoman Inez E. Dickens; Ms. Jennifer Patrone, NMIC; Ms. Gail Powell; Ms. Charlia Sarabia, Mount Sinai Morningside; Ms. Brenda Spivey-Nieves, 3333 Broadway Seniors Committee.

Meeting called to order at 11:07 a.m. Motion to approve agenda by Lydia, seconded by Francina; agenda approved. Motion to approve 11/14/2023 meeting minutes by Lydia, seconded by Patricia Caldwell; 11/14/2023 meeting minutes approved.

Discussions & Announcements:

- Mt. Sinai/Morningside Injury Prevention, Ms. Charla Sanabria, Community Outreach, charla.sarabia@mountsinai.org Suite 520, Prevention/Education/Tai Chi, Lectures/Nutrition/Fall prevention - 8am - 1pm (212) 636-2449.
- Ms. Brenda Spivey-Nieves reported ongoing street problems at 135th Street & Broadway - cracks on sidewalk at the #4 Bus stop; she's afraid someone could fall. She was advised to contact the CB9M Uniform Services & Transportation Committee to address her concerns.
- Dances for a Variable Population; Ms. Naomi Goldberg Haas and Ms. Theodora Gilbert conducted an interactive dance exercise presentation led by Ms. Gilbert; Seniors in the Arts @ Manhattanville; she introduced members & officers, mind body connection, zoom classes also - www.dvpng.org
- Ms. Verna V. Arthur, Government Affairs Officer, NYC Aging, introduced herself and provided her contact information - (212) 602-4261, varthur@aging.nyc.gov
- Dream Center @ West 119th Street NYC, Ms. Syreena Howard, Executive Director, 212-678-7030, showard@dreamcenterharlem.org, www.dreamcenterharlem.org; free Yoga, free Paint & Sip, Bingo, Jewelry classes, free programming, economic development, daytime programs, knitting & crochet classes; computer literacy (teaching seniors how to use their smartphones & navigate social media, et al) - various programs since 2012. Walter announced that the CB9M Senior Action Committee will be hosting another Senior Resource Center event in May 2024 & invited the Dream Center to attend.

- Ms. Kimberlyn Batista, Northern Manhattan Improvement Corp (NMIC) - introduced herself & provided her contact information - NMIC/Legal Services/Washington Heights Tenants Organization, Security/Home Health Aide training, Domestic Violence, (929) 415-8745
- Mr. William Hamer, Harlem Advocates for Seniors; major town hall meeting for seniors @ A. Phillip Randolph Senior Center on Wednesday, December 6th. In person attendance is full, and will also be available via live stream; he & Francina will be speaking on the panel from 10:00 a.m - 12:00 noon. There will be at least 12 speakers including local elected officials & community leaders. Discussion will include aging issues & recommendations for the Statewide Master Plan.
- Self Care Day at 3333 Broadway, December 14, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Ms. Jennifer Patrone, NMIC Outreach Specialist JenniferPatrone@nmic.org - presentation on NMIC history (serving the community for the past 44 years), free services & programs, security guard training, home health aide training, support the Brides March for Domestic Violence Awareness, food pantries, help with NYCHA & Section 8 & SCRIE/DRIE recertifications (also help with legal representation if you've been denied for SSI Disability assistance). CB9M Board Chair Victor Edwards asked Ms. Patrone if she could share her presentation with the CB9M Office. She said yes she would & will also include flyers for distribution. Walter invited Ms. Patrone to the May 2024 Senior Fair at the Columbia University Forum.
- Ms. Japheth Parrish-Wright, new Community Liaison, NYS Assembly, 70th Assembly District, from the Office of the Honorable NYS Assemblywoman Inez E. Dickens. Ms. Parrish-Wright introduced herself & provided her contact information for future reference. Phone - 212-866-5809, Mobile - 347-932-5961, email - wrightj@nyassembly.gov , Harlem State Office Building, 163 West 125th Street, Suite 911, New York, NY 10027.
- Mr. Will Haggis, George Bruce Library, NYPL - the George Bruce Library is closed for renovation; other NYPL libraries to visit are: Morningside Heights, 2900 Broadway, NYC 10025; Hamilton Grange, 503 West 145th Street & Amsterdam Avenue, NYC 10031; Macomb's Bridge, 2633 Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Blvd, NYC 10039; Harry Belafonte, 203 West 115th Street, NYC 10026. Hopefully, the George Bruce Library will reopen by March 2024.
- New Business - Transportation for the Aging, with Medicare (Uber) no charge; call (917) 259-7735 to register, service is for seniors 60+ with Medicare.
- Ms. Powell asked if a representative from Transit will be present in the future to discuss the MTA OMNY program. Walter & Carlton agreed that we need more info & suggested we invite the MTA to a future meeting.

Motion to Adjourn by Lydia, motion seconded by Francina; motion carried. **Meeting adjourned at 12:28 pm**

UPDATE: Since the 12/5/2023 meeting took place, the next Senior Action committee meeting has been rescheduled for **Tuesday, January 9, 2024 @ 11:00 a.m.** via hybrid format.