

SENIOR ISSUES MEETING MINUTES FOR JANUARY 4, 2022

In attendance: Hon. Walter T. Alexander, Hon. Anthony Fletcher, Hon. Arelis Mejia, Hon. Vic Edwards, Hon. Carolyn Thompson, Aboubakar Diaby, William Hamer, Verna Arthur ((DFTA), Julio Batista and Dr. Mara Minquez (NY Presbyterian), Officer Stuner (30th Precinct), Nellie Escalante (Arts & Minds), Will Haggis and Junelle Carter-Bowman (George Bruce Library), Alicea Barksdale (WHDC), Naomi Goldberg, Brenda Spivey-Nieves, Tina Ashlsey, Ameenah Muhammed, Cora Gilmore, Lorraine Wilbourne, Gail Powell.

Call to Order @11:08am

Adopted Minutes (none-waived)

Adopted Agenda

Discussion

Junelle Carter-Bowman from the George Bruce Library (212) 662-9727

- Introduces new employee Will Haggis
- The Library is open Monday through Thursday 12pm to 7pm; Friday to Saturday 1pm to 6pm
- No in-person classes at the moment

Naomi Goldberg-Dances for a Variable Population (dvp.org)

- Outdoor exercises and movement for seniors at Grant's Tomb, Manhattanville, and Jackie Robinson

Tina Ashley, Site Director-Convent Ave Baptist Church (212) 862-5562

- Meals for seniors only are on a grab and go basis on Tuesdays and Thursdays, Others are given referrals for outside food programs
- Virtual Zoom classes are done weekly. Tablets were distributed to seniors for this.
- A bilingual tech assistant is needed to assist in case management.

Question-Is this a paid position?

Yes. DFTA can provide assistance in search also

Question-Are there any tablets left for distribution?

DFTA should be sending more in the next two weeks.

Nellie Escalante-Arts & Minds

- Has a program for seniors suffering from dementia

Dr. Mara Minquez NY Presbyterian

- Omicron is the new variant. It looks and acts differently from Delta, but is more contagious

Comment-My son was diagnosed with COVID and is now quarantined outside my residence.

He should be quarantined for five days, and then take another test

Comment-The media is not providing a breakdown of the COVID results (vaccinated vs unvaccinated).

The media seems to be only concerned about the rising numbers rather than specifics

Question-Are the home testing kits available at the hospital?

Not as of yet. You can call the hospital at (929) 298-9400 to make an appointment for the test. Also, some community organizations will be getting the take home tests (3333 Broadway) very soon

Meeting adjourned at 12:55 pm. Next Senior Issues meeting will be February 1, 2022 via Zoom