

Senior Issues Meeting

Sept 1

Committee Members in Attendance - Marti Cummings, Martin Wallace, Anthony Fletcher
Excused - Walter Alexander

Other CB9 Board Members in Attendance - Joyce Adewumi

Meeting called to order 11:10am

- Meeting agenda amended and then adopted

*** Irene Zola - Life Force in Later Years

11 years ago the program began in Morningside Heights and then a few years ago started a second chapter in Harlem/Manhattanville area.

In 2019 they had around 10 events including a lunch that served 110 seniors.

Since we can't do in person there is phone banking to connect with seniors as well as partnering with other organizations to provide air conditioning, food, and PPE.

Begun to start social distance walks with Seniors.

Hired a bilingual speaker to reach Latinx members of the community.

Been doing groups on zoom to engage seniors.

If you have information on getting technology such as tablets to seniors call Irene Zola at 917- 775-1199

*** Naomi Goldberg Haas

Movement programs for seniors to help with exercise and alignment.

11am & 3pm - anyone can access the classes for free via phone or zoom

347-683-2691

844-854-2222 Dances for a variable population

Access Code: 105424#

Naomi@dvpnyc.org

-- call for classes

*** Joyce Adewumi - Vice President of the 30th Precinct Community Council

Cb9 worked to get money for the Precinct Council to help provide food for seniors.

The money ran out so worked to get a grant so more food/meals could be provided for seniors.

Tuesday & every other Wednesday and Friday - fresh food is provided to seniors. This food is fresh from the farm (cucumbers, spinach, tomatoes, carrots, potatoes) as well as dry foods, toilet paper, dish washing liquid, soap. Roughly 5 bags per senior.

If a senior is not able to pick up the packages will be delivered.

155th Street Between Amsterdam and St Nicholas

151st Street Between Amsterdam and Broadway

To sign up please contact 347-938-9335

*** Lesley Sigall - League of Women Voters

Huge part of mission is to help people exercise their right to vote.

Manhattan Board of Elections. 212-886-2100
LWVNYC 212-725-3541

3 Ways to Vote

Early Voting - October 24 - November 1

Vote Absentee - apply ASAP

— vote.nyc — NY County Board of Elections 200 Varick Street 10th Floor NY, NY 10014

Vote on Election Day - November 3

NYC.pollsitelocator.com

If you are looking for speakers, trainings, or voter registration events - lwvtrainings@lwnyc.org voter.services@lwnyc.org

Anyone can drop off absentee ballots at any polling site as long as it is signed
MW Postmarking issue. This continues to be a problem – no postmark to prove ballot was sent before NOV. 3. Albany passed law that ballot can be considered if arrives on Nov. 4.

Okay for groups to gather ballots and drop them off at early voting/election day polling site. Proceed with caution to avoid accusations of ballot harvesting

W. Hamer – our organization could collect 100 ballots from seniors and hand deliver them.

Irene Zola – Bulletin for distribution with info for seniors. Outreach idea. Part of larger outreach effort.

Gail – Take issue with virtual doctor idea. Had pneumonia. How can a pulmonary issue be addressed virtually? Insist on first appointment, which seems like an excuse to charge extra.

M.W. Can only be part of first step. Must include a follow up appointment at hospital or with home visit.

Irene Zola – Follow up visits can work, depending on issue. Can reduce risk of exposure if there is only a need to ask questions. Could be a racket but could be preventative medicine.

WH – Yes, we've been thrust into virtual world – there is still a need for advocacy, for older people, wrap around service. Need to keep advocating and raising these issues. Asking questions. Should CB step in? There will be abuses and we must remain vigilant.

MW – VA, does DFTA do oversight on these issues? VA – not sure. Will inquire at Long Term Care Dept. They probably keep tabs on this. Concerned about someone staying in hosp. for 6 days. Need buddy system. Checking in on each other.
347-277-6929 – Verna Arthur.

Case Management Program – for older adults to help with paying bills. Bill Payer Program
Discussion of Budget Consultation Process

Shirley Saxton – Soc. Sec. –

Reminder that offices are available for service by phone from 9-4. Multilingual staff. FIXA Taxes collected today, pay for seniors tomorrow.

Old Business: None

New Business: Establish Buddy System

Adjourn at 1:10 PM

Action Items:

Establish Buddy System

V Arthur looks into oversight – Long-Term Care Department

Bill Payer Program