

Committee for Concerns of the Aging

ZOOM Meeting

May 7th, 2020

Attendance:

Committee – Present: Chair, Mary Anderson; Assistant Chair, Yosef Kalinsky; Maria Luna; Glennis Aquino-Gil; Richard Allman; Public members: Fern Hertzberg; Yomaris Smith

Carol Weeks, Public Member and Jay Mazur, Committee Member unable to join meeting due to technical issues logging in to ZOOM

Staff – Ebenezer Smith, Paola Garcia

Guests – Mariel Delacruz from Scott Stringer’s office

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- Meeting began at approximately 10:50am with welcome to all, especially new Public Member, Yomaris Smith.
 - Members encouraged to check in – how everyone is doing and what everyone is doing during this pandemic and what is helping us to cope.
 - Issues with Isabella Geriatric Center and media coverage initiated a lively discussion of how everyone felt – about reports, about personal relationships with Isabella as well as concerns about the residents and what the Committee might be able to do for them
 - Food access for seniors was spoken about – what is being done in the community including how seniors can enroll for food delivery (Call Fern at 212-781-5700 if anyone knows a senior who could benefit). Also, Maria Luna shared what she, in cooperation with Senator Al Taylor and others are doing in her building and neighborhood by providing hot meals to seniors. Concern expressed that some food delivered to seniors is an issue because they don’t have a way to heat the food.
 - Concern expressed about how to continue our meetings as the community seniors who attend the meetings do not have the equipment or technological ability to access ZOOM meetings.
 - Another real problem for seniors and disabled is the inability to access businesses such as Post Offices and banks due to the long lines and wondering if there are solutions to this.
 - Because some of the attendees had to leave the meeting early due to prior commitments, it was decided to further address some of these issues at our next meeting.
 - Meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:15 PM.