

Committee for the Concerns of the Aging
Minutes of Meeting – Tuesday, June 10, 2014
530 West 166th Street, New York, New York 10032

CB 12 Members:

Present: Gloria Vanterpool, Chair, Betty Lehmann, Assistant Chair, Edgar Nau, Liliana Saneaux, Arlene Schulman, Norma de Candido (Public Member), Mary Anderson (Public Member)

Absent: Shahabudden Ally, Lorenzo McGougan,

Public Attendees: Bernice Perez (Clinical Support Manager (ElderServe CHHA) , Giselle Mejia (City Harvest) Police Officer Sharon Robinson-Hewitt (33rd Precinct Community Affairs), Laura Whitehorn (Release Aging People in Prison RAPP)

Welcome & Introduction: Those attending introduced themselves and the organizations they represent.

Update on other CB 12 Committees:

Housing & Human Services Committee:

Gloria Vanterpool reported on the success of the Housing & Human Services Conference held as a full day session at Isabella on Saturday, May 17, 2014. She also reported that the Committee is considering renewing similar efforts to educate and advise the community in the fall. Among recent topics for discussion were the rules that should and should not apply to Co-Op owners.

Health & Environment Committee:

Edgar Nau reported that the Health & Environment Committee heard a presentation from:

Brenda Ruotolo, Executive Director, CUMC Institutional Review Board. Ed revealed that there are (5) IRB's at present and that he is a member of (1) IRB on Social Behavior. A discussion ensued as to how IRB's are constituted and managed – and if and how results of research are made known to those participating in various studies. A suggestion was made that it might be worthwhile to educate the public – and to seniors in particular – as to what to expect if they become part of a research study.

Ed reported that Ms. Amparo Abel-Bey, MPH Research Assistant of CUMC Neurology spoke about recruiting minority participants for the “Tailored Approaches to Stroke Health Education” and that the recruiting effort is focused on congregants from churches in the Northern Manhattan and Bronx communities.

Land Use Committee:

Arlene Shulman indicated that she has just been appointed to the Land Use Committee and that at the recent meeting they had discussed the BSA Application of 290 Dyckman Street.

Public Safety:

Liliana Saneaux reported that the matter of feral cats in the community had come up at a recent meeting of the Public Safety Committee meeting. She also reported that they had discussed the 32% drop in robberies in the 33rd Precinct.

Orientation of new CB 12 Members:

Gloria Vanterpool spoke about the orientation program held for new CB12 Members on May 20. The Aging Committee had prepared a one-page document that explained the Committees mission, schedule, and recent topics for discussion. She indicated that this was very helpful in introducing the work of the committee to new members.

Presentations:

Officer Robinson-Hewitt (33rd Precinct Community Affairs) presented information about ATM Skimming is prominent in NYC and suggested that it likely to increase in Northern Manhattan. She suggested some alternative actions that citizens can take to avoid becoming victims of this crime.

Laura Whitehorn (Release Aging People in Prison RAPP) spoke about the recent 2-day conference held at CUMC regarding the over-incarceration in prisons – particularly among those who are aging. It was attended by the heads of various Public Health schools. A decision was made to form a task force on Re-entry from Prisons. The task force will include participation from RAPP, DFTA, Justice Institute of CUMC, and Osborne among others. There will be pilot project under the aegis of DFTA to evaluate Release and Transitional Services that should be available for older inmates upon release from prison.

Giselle Mejia, City Harvest spoke about the supermarket survey project and the guide that is available for those conducting the survey. The survey may be conducted by anyone in the community. Giselle is working with the Columbia Community Partnership for Health to promote participation in the survey. She is also working with several other community non-profits to enlist the help of community surveyors and to promote the benefits of healthy food choices.

Wrap-Up:

The next meeting of the Committee for the Concerns for the Aging is Tuesday, September 9th 2014. Some topics that were recommended for further discussion included:

- Volunteering among seniors
- Alzheimer's Care
- Intergenerational Programs
- Incarceration of Elders

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth (Betty)Lehmann

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