

Minutes from Committee for Concerns of the Aging

Thursday December 1st 2022

Attendance:

Committee – Present: Mary Anderson (Chair), Yosef Kalinsky (Assistant Chair), Maria Luna, James Bosley, Richard Allman. **Absent:** Mariam James, Cindy Matos. **Public Members:** Dory Garcia (ARC – Ft. Washington), Carol Weeks (Dyckman Senior Center. **Public Attendees:** Ashly Carlos (SHOPP), Stephanie Cruz (STAR Senior Center), Liliete Lopez (CIDNY), Diane Ashley (MJHS -Isabella Center), Miryam Rabner (MJHS), Ashton Stewart (MJHS), Verna Arthur (DFTA), Cheyenne Morillo (Harlem Action Center), Rosie Bernard (MJHS), Shuli Gutmann (Moriah Senior Center). Masiel Veras (NORC), Lisa Beth Miller (Lighthouse Guild) , Diandria Hernandez (YM/WHA)

Meeting called to order at 10:38 AM by the chair.

After introductions, the chair mentioned the sad passing of Sally Fisher, CB12 member and community activist, followed by a moment of silence and some recollection by Board members in Sally's memory.

- Letter Requesting to continue virtual meetings for the Aging Committee
Letter was drafted by the committee and sent last month to the Borough president, Mayor, and all of our local elected officials. We will await their response.
- Open discussion regarding issues of concern to committee and attendees
 - Centers are encouraging seniors back to the center for congregant meals and banning "grab-n-go" meals at the end of December. Our directors do not feel that this is the best approach – seniors are still concerned about contracting Covid and are nervous to come back in person to the centers. We need to provide the service that they need. Some centers can ask for a variance, but there is a process for that. Also, some seniors are busy and don't have time to sit for a meal. They have appointments and other obligations.
- Suggestions for new Speakers/Presentations
 - LGBTQ Issues and the Aging presentation – plan for 2023 meeting
 - Ryan Health – ask them to present a Covid 2023 update, specifically for seniors
 - Need to encourage updated boosters and to be vigilant to keep our seniors safe
 - Alzheimer's Research (Dr. Honig) at Columbia – to present at our January 2023 meeting
 - Presentation on new Omni Tap Card which will replace current Metrocard

- Today is “World Aids Day” – a time to consider all of the advances we’ve made in the area of science and care for those impacted by it.
- Review of Board budget rankings with the committee
- Announcements - Virtual meetings to continue until December 21st
- Motion to adjourn by Richard Allman, seconded by James Bosley. Meeting adjourned at 12 Noon.