

**Bronx Community Board 8**  
**Ageing Committee Meeting**  
**Monday, November 14, 2022**  
via Zoom  
*Pending Approval*

Committee Members Present

Lee Chong  
Lisa Daub, Chair  
Margaret Donato  
Myra Joyce, Vice Chair  
Rita Pochter-Lowe  
Georgia Santiago

Committee Members Absent: none

Guests: Sharon Asherman (Riverdale Y - New Beginnings), Phillip Baiser, Bayla Butler (AmPark NORC), Andria Cassidy (RSS), Allison Cook (Better Aging & Policy Consulting), Julie Dalton (RSS), Elana Kieffer (NYAM), Miryam Rabner (MJHS),

Chair Lisa Daub called the meeting to order at 4:05pm.

1. Introductions - Committee Members and Guests
2. Topic: The Intersection of Ageism, Race and Healthcare

Allison Cook, MPH, Better Aging and Policy Consulting:

In a study of people living in the US age 50+ regarding ageism and health:

93% experience ageism

20% experience ageism in healthcare settings

\$63 billion per year is spent on healthcare services due to ageism, including excess services and too little

Speaker noted the compounding negative impact of ageism and racism on healthcare.

Also noted ways to take action, starting with education of the public, medical professionals and youth through intergenerational activities. Recommends the "Old School Anti-Ageism Clearinghouse": <https://oldschool.info/>

Elana Kieffer, MBA, Director – Center for Healthy Aging, New York Academy of Medicine (NYAM).

NYAM's mission is to "drive progress towards improved health through attaining health equity". The Center for Healthy Aging strives to "improve health and well-being of current and future aging populations".

Using NYAM's **IMAGE:NYC** – open source map on NYC's current and projected age 65+ population in the CB8 area (neighborhoods vary):

21% of population are age 65+

13% of older adults are under poverty line

42% of older adults voted in 2021 mayoral election (marker of civic engagement)

60% of older adults live alone (one marker of potential social isolation)

65% of older adults speak Spanish and speak English less than very well

30% of older adults have a disability

7% - 24% of older adults are Black

The **Older Adults' Equity Collaborative** brings together national organizations that are committed to aging and minority populations. They have assembled a resource library

that is organized by topic and invites new content. See <https://www.nyam.org/center-healthy-aging/advising/oaec-resource-library/>

Discussions:

- Caregivers: largely women, people of color and immigrants. Workers are undervalued. Efforts for pay equity to increase caregiver wage recently passed with most funding from the state (Medicaid), but still not a true living wage.
- Governor Kathy Hochul gave an executive order to undergo a 10-year master plan for aging and how NY will address aging and caregiving issues.
- NYAM Webinar on Nov 15 on changes to Aging in NYC. Myra Joyce participated.
- LiveOn NY requesting participation in *The People's Money*, a CEC participatory budget initiative.

3. Chairperson's Report

- o OMNY for reduced transit fare is up and running.
- o The Department for Aging is moving away from using DFTA acronym on public communications and social media to "NYC Aging".
- o Cohort 2 of DFTA My Ride was cancelled.
- o 8.7% increase in Social Security and SSI benefits, ~\$5 decrease in Medicare Part B premium.

4. Community / Service Provider Updates

- o RSS – still challenged to bring onsite participation to pre-pandemic level. Virtual programs are well attended. RSS held a flea market and well attended art exhibit of creativity during pandemic. An online fundraising event is coming up and on Dec 6, a presentation on OMNY. (J. Dalton, A. Cassidy)
- o AmPark NORC – over 100 people regularly use food pantry, illustrating growing food insecurity (B. Butler).
- o Miryam Rabner raised common need and efforts regarding food insecurity in Washington Heights and Inwood and suggests broadening their coalition and collaboration with efforts by organizations in our district. Also shared a book recommendation, *Ageism Unmasked*.
- o Phillip Baiser (community resident) informed the group about plans to sell the building that houses the Van Cortlandt Jewish Center on Sedgwick Avenue where the JASA older adult center (OAC) is located. He is opposed to a sale. L. Daub noted that if there is a sale and a gap in opening a new OAC, that the community will support participants, e.g., avail of Y's van between AmPark NORC to Riverdale YMHA.

5. Approval of Aging Committee Minutes: September 12, 2022

- o Approval of Minutes: 6 (L Daub, M Joyce, M Donato, L Chong, G Santiago, R. Pochter-Lowe), Abstain: 0, Opposed: 0

6. Outstanding Business / New Business - none

Prepared by Myra Joyce

Submitted by Lisa Daub