

**Bronx Community Board 8
Minutes of the Aging Committee
Meeting Held on March 8, 2021 via Zoom**

In Attendance –

Committee Members: Eric Dinowitz, Margaret Della, Marvin Goodman, Dan Padernacht, Rita Pochter-Lowe

Community Board Members: David Gellman

Guests: Audrey Bleier, Corlis Evans, Mike Sharp, Jeff Solomon, Julie Dalton, Mariel De La Cruz, Yolanda Rodriguez, Sharon Asherman

Chair Dinowitz opened the meeting at 3:00pm

Dinowitz introduced Mike Sharp, the outreach liaison from Department of Finance. He first spoke about SCRIE, which can freeze rent for some older adults. SCRIE provides a credit or exemption to a landlord for eligible residents. Residents must be at least 62, have a combined income of \$50,000 or less, and spending more than a third of that income on rent. Security, garages, and utilities are not included. Department of Finance sends renewal applications with three rounds of communication before any benefit is revoked.

When a landlord has a concern, they should not go to the renter with complaints and inquiries. For more information and to apply, he directed us to <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/finance/index.page> → ways to save.

Exemptions for owners, including SCHE

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/finance/benefits/landlords.page>

Budget Priorities:

Riverdale Senior Services and Riverdale Y expressed need to take into account how senior centers function differently now and in the future due to the pandemic. The committee outlined the following budget priorities for future discussion.

1. Funding for senior centers, including hybrid centers which will need funding for both in-person and virtual programming, which will both require funding for on-site staff.
2. Ventilation
3. Technology upgrades for the centers and for older adults, including education programs
4. Mental health service needs have quadrupled, and thus, funding needs will need to reflect this.

Vaccinations:

Homebound seniors interested in receiving a vaccination at home can fill out the interest form at <https://forms.cityofnewyork.us/f/homebound>

It was suggested that an alternate contact section be added (social worker, family member advocate, etc.). It was also suggested that the form explicitly state who is receiving this form.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15pm
Submitted by Eric Dinowitz