

**Pending Committee Approval)**

**Minutes of Aging Committee – Bronx Community Board 8**

**Thursday, June 12, 2025 at 4:00 P.M.**

**Bronx Community Board 8 Office – 5676 Riverdale Ave, Suite 100, Bronx, NY 10471**

**Meeting Recording: <https://youtu.be/cAGlimR0BdY?si=FydvusDoOW3ltTMe>**

Committee Members in Attendance (3): Barbara Kail (Vice Chair), Georgia Santiago, E Doyle McCarthy (Community Committee Member)

Absent Committee Members (1): Mary Ellen Gibbs (Chair)

Community Board 8 Guests: Julie Reyes (Chairperson, Bronx CB8), Farrah Kule Rubin (District Manager), Ardy Malziu (Community Coordinator)

Guest Attendees: Margie Schustack (Riverdale Senior Services), Shakir (Chip) Seagers (Theory 9 and AHDC Coalition for the Peoples Money), Aubrey Balcom (RiverSpring Living)

B. Kail called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm.

Chairperson's Report

As Vice-Chair, she will assume Chair responsibilities temporarily. Our next Full Board meeting is June 25, 2025. There are no further meetings of the Aging Committee until September.

Shakir (Chip) Seagers spoke on behalf of Theory 9 and AHDC Coalition for the Peoples Money. Theory 9 offers a food pantry at Marie Curie High School the last Friday of every month. The next is scheduled for June 17. The Coalition for the Peoples Money has created a paper ballot and link which facilitates commentary on the NYC budget and designated projects. Shakir suggested we highlight those portions of the budget most relevant to older persons in District 8. He will email the link to their ballot to the CB8 office.

A roll call was announced. A quorum (3) was present.

Approval of Meeting Minutes of May 8 2025:

Minutes of the May 8, 2025 meeting were approved unanimously.

In Favor (3): B. Kail, G. Santiago, E. McCarthy

Opposed (0)

Abstentions (0)

Unfinished Business

At our last meeting we had a request to present a resolution to our NYS Senators and Assemblymembers concerning New York State Senate Bill S3607 & Assembly Bill A4639.

These bills would have assured that NYS Public retirees retain their current level of medical insurance benefits. The legislation was introduced to State Senate, assigned to the Labor Committee and died in committee. It was never introduced in the Assembly. We supported a similar resolution at our last meeting that would prevent such a reduction for NYC employees. Do we want to support a resolution addressed to our State legislators? The Committee agreed. Chairperson J. Reyes requested we be proactive now before next legislative session opens and approve the resolution at our next full board meeting. E. McCarthy moved the Committee approve a resolution to be sent to State legislators based on that previously sent to our NYC Council members. B. Kail seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

In Favor (3): B. Kail, G. Santiago, E. McCarthy  
Opposed (0) Abstentions (0)

B. Kail offered to draft the resolution to be sent out in the next day or two. The resolution approved by the full board is attached below.

#### Update on Senior Resource Guide

The Guide needs some editing e.g. the first page and introduction. The office will review it and send it to the Committee. We should consider several logistical options for updating the document:

1. Ask the organizations included to review their description and suggest other services they know of.
2. Ask the Department of Aging to review it and see if they have any additions.
3. Aubrey from RiverSpring Living offered to also review it.
4. Schedule a regular review every six months or so and a communication plan once it's ready. E. McCarthy has offered to work on a communication plan.

District Manager F. Kule Rubin asked that we have a time line for final review and printing. We will work on it over and decide in Fall 2025 when it might be finalized for printing.

#### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Kail (Vice Chair)

**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 8 – AGING COMMITTEE**  
**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE RE-INTRODUCTION AND PASSAGE OF**  
**NEW YORK STATE SENATE BILL S3607 & ASSEMBLY BILL A4639**

Bronx Community Board 8 Resolution to support the re-introduction and passage of New York State Senate Bill S3607 & Assembly Bill A4639 that prohibits public employers from diminishing health insurance benefits provided to Medicare-eligible retirees and their Medicare-eligible dependents or the contributions such employer makes for such health insurance coverage below the level of such benefits or contributions made on behalf of such retirees and dependents by the public employer as of December 31, 2021.

**WHEREAS,** so many constituents have served New York State and are now enjoying the retirement benefits they earned, and;

**WHEREAS,** the issue of healthcare is extremely important and must be protected for those retirees who have worked for their healthcare rights, and;

**WHEREAS,** this legislation preserves retirees' access to the level of health care they have received in the past, or being forced into a MAP (Medicare Advantage Plan) with limited medical providers and would also be at the MAP's whims for preauthorization decisions that may be based - at least in part - on Artificial Intelligence - instead of the medical decisions from their current regular medical providers, and;

**WHEREAS,** NYC Retirees have already testified in various forums, including at the January 11, 2023, NYC Council Civil Service and the Labor Committee public hearing, that they have been subjected to unconscionable stress due to this violation of their earned healthcare benefits, which sets a harmful precedent for the rest of the State and Nation, and;

**WHEREAS,** the Bronx Community Board Aging Committee unanimously supported this draft resolution at its June 12 2025, meeting.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** Bronx Community Board 8 urges State Senators Gustavo Rivera and Robert Jackson; and State Assembly Members George Alvarez, Jeffrey Dinowitz and Manny De Los Santos; to exercise leadership by reintroducing and supporting Senate Bill S3607 & Assembly Bill A4639 in the upcoming legislative session.

**In Favor (3):** B. Kail, G. Santiago, E. McCarthy

**Opposed (0)**

**Abstentions (0)**