

**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8
MINUTES OF THE AGING COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON DECEMBER 16, 2014 AT
PREMIER FIVE STAR RESIDENCE**

PRESENT

Karen Pesce
Lisa Daub
Marvin Goodman
Irving Ladimer
Georgia Santiago
Bill Stone
Sharon Asherman
Melanie Baez
Bayla Butler
Nancy D'Auria
Enrie Morales

AFFILIATION

CB8 Committee Chair
CB8 Committee Vice Chair
CB8 Committee Member
CB8 Committee Member
CB8 Committee Member
CB8 Committee Member
Riverdale YM/YWHA
Methodist Home
BJCC AmPark NORC
ElderServe - HHAR
Right at Home

The meeting commenced at 2:30 PM. Participants introduced themselves.

1. Minutes of the November 18, 2014 meeting were accepted as submitted.

Committee Chair explained the new 48 hour review process for CB8 Committee and Community Committee members, prior to distribution to Community Board.

2. Speaker – Enrie Morales, owner of Right at Home, a local firm that provides homemakers and companions to those needing assistance, discussed the importance for professional and family caregivers to learn about dementia. Her caregiver training includes the *Virtual Dementia Tour* that was developed by P.K. Beville and provided by the non-profit organization, Second Wind. This is a 12 minute experiential training that uses equipment to alter the senses. The experience should help people to understand and empathize with behavioral changes caused by sensory changes that a person with dementia may live with every day. Caregivers can learn how to adapt their interactions and support to better assist the person with dementia and to ease some of the stress of caregiving. Dementia is a progressive disease so it is important to get information and to seek help.

3. Discussion – Ms. D'Auria talked about some of her personal and professional experiences as a geriatric nurse and administrator. She feels that the virtual dementia training is beneficial. Attendees contributed their own experiences and good practices. Mr. Ladimer brought up the importance of recognizing that someone has dementia, to get treatment and to measure progress. The attendees discussed the importance of social involvement and doing new activities as we age, as well measurements used by CMS and by professionals in this field. With family visits this time of year, after long absences, there is usually an increase in people seeking help.

The Committee raised concerns about people living alone and who are developing dementia, e.g., do buildings have a procedure if they are faced with someone who needs help and may be at risk to themselves and others. Do they call 911, an agency, or APS? The Chair will contact ARC. Mr. Ladimer said that we should bear in mind legal issues such as privacy and confidentiality. This will be discussed at another meeting before the Committee moves forward on any actions.

Participants noted that Allen Hospital and NYP Cornell have a special geriatric ER.

4. Old Business

- The Committee discussed a resolution drafted by the Chairperson as a follow-up to last month's meeting regarding research entities selling data to pharmaceutical companies and without remunerating study subjects. It was agreed that the Committee will table the resolution until the issues are further researched.
- The Chairperson wrote to Councilman Cohen asking his office to direct expense line funding to Ft. Independence Senior Center (NYCHA) for purchase of art and other needed supplies.

5. New Business

- Ms. Daub inquired about the status of a new caregiver support group offered by the Methodist Home. Ms. Baez, newly appointed Outreach Coordinator at Methodist, will provide an update at the next meeting.

The Committee will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, January 20th at 2:30 PM – location to be announced.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Prepared by Lisa Daub, Vice Chair
Reviewed by Karen Pesce, Chair
Aging Committee