

**MINUTES OF THE AGING COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON February 21, 2006 AT THE ATRIA  
3718 HENRY HUDSON PARKWAY**

**PRESENT**

Karen Pesce  
Irving Ladimer  
Anthony Creaney  
Ciel Gordet  
Yhatrid Algarin  
Joyce Pilsner  
Ida Rosenblatt  
Ethel Davies  
Sue Lobel  
Vicki Green

**AFFILIATION**

CB#8, Committee Chairperson  
CB#8  
CB#8  
ARC  
RMHA  
CB#8, RMHA.  
Riverdale Senior Services  
Riverdale Senior Services  
Classic Residence by Hyatt  
Atria

1. Introduction of attendees.
2. Minutes of previous meeting approved as submitted.
3. Speaker: Kim Steinhagen, Geriatric Mental Health Alliance of New York.

The organization was formed and identified the need to address geriatric policy for mental health. The long term agenda is to identify best practices and innovative ideas. There are focus groups working on advocacy for long term care, training and integration of services. Identified needs are mental health services for Asian and Spanish older adults. There will be a plan to increase awareness of geriatric mental health issues, including developing position papers to influence RFP's (response for proposals) on mental health needs. The organization seeks to make older adult mental health issues a priority item for legislators. There is a \$2 million demonstration project to fund projects with future plans for \$5 million to address needs. There is no charge to join the Alliance and all work is voluntary.

Riverdale Mental Health is developing an outreach program. Yhatrid Algarin, is the coordinator, for the northwest Bronx. Its plan is to contact Senior Centers, Police Precincts, building Supers, area hospitals re: specific older adult needs. Schervier has developed outreach program for those with needs; volunteer staffing may be limited.

4. Agency Reports: None
5. Old Business: None
6. New Business: Projected Dept. for Aging budget reported with its significant reduction. Recommended by Committee that Aging Chairperson send letter to Mayor Bloomberg requesting reconsideration due to the number of older adults, not only in Community Board No. 8 but other Bronx communities.

Next meeting: Tuesday, March 28, 2006, 3:30 PM at Schervier Apts.

Submitted by  
Karen Pesce, Chairperson  
Aging Committee