

COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8 BRONX

**MINUTES OF THE AGING COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON APRIL 28, 2009
AT THE BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8
BOARD OFFICE**

PRESENT

Karen Pesce
Anthony Creaney
Robert G. Abbott
Thomas Durham
Beverly Fettman
Irving Ladimer
Diane Cooper
Joe Facciola
Sue Lobel
Frances Savage
Constance Segal
Manfred Segal

AFFILIATION

Committee Chairperson, CB#8
CB #8, Committee Vice Chair
CB #8
CB #8I
CB #8
CB #8
Caregivers Outreach
DFTA
Classic Residence by Hyatt
UN Health
AARP
AARP

1. Introduction of participants
2. Minutes of previous meeting: approved as submitted
3. Speaker, Diane Cooper of Caregivers Outreach. Ms. Cooper has a Masters in Nursing, is a geriatric nurse practitioner and founder of the program. Established in June of 2006, there is no religious affiliation. She was inspired to develop the program after being a family caregiver. She works with senior centers in helping caregivers identify their own needs: asking for help, protecting their own health and believing in themselves; an elder law attorney is part of the program. The program also meets in residential buildings to identify area resources, including adult children who serve as caregivers. Ms. Cooper is seeking a grant for training caregivers, with six sessions, including people who need community service as a school project. The TBI program for those 18-62 years would include those with attention deficits.
4. Members reports
 - a. Joe Facciola, DFTA: \$3 million in Stimulus Package money (NYS) has been earmarked with \$2 million for senior centers and \$1 million for meals. Some states are rejecting Stimulus dollars. DFTA is surveying communities re: needs/wants for seniors.
 - b. Manny Segal, AARP: Stimulus package will result in reduction of payroll taxes. Those on Social Security, SSI and Railroad retirement will receive a one time payment of \$250 by the end of May. He recommended an alternative plan which included an increased cap on Social Security taxes but area politicians said there won't be a change until the long pending Social Security Reform Package is passed.
 - c. Irving Ladimer: Riverdale Senior Services is working on a needs survey and hopes to receive funding. When the survey is available, Irving will forward it to the Committee. Social Daycare is a program lacking in funding. DFTA wants new programs promoting health. Schervier is providing caregivers' training but its caregivers program has decreased funding. Schervier has a new project to identify pain level in nonverbal people. The goal is to provide medical specialists to individualize treatment. The organization has two respite rooms; need must be

identified. Medicaid will cover the cost. Irving is working with Assemblyman Dinowitz in developing a program to provide reimbursement/acknowledgement of caregivers.

- d. Tom Durham: unclear if the NYS Stimulus Package is for capital or expense.
- e. Beverly Fettman: there is need to provide programs for those who don't fall into senior citizen age range. Frances Savage mentioned insurance program: chronic illness program.
- f. Tony Creaney: he attended City Council Aging Committee meeting and felt that attendance was mediocre. At this time, there is no plan to close senior centers. New DFTA commissioner is developing her agenda.
- g. Next meeting Tuesday, May 26. Location to be announced.

Submitted by:

Karen Pesce
Chairperson
Aging Committee

KP:db (5/4/09)