

**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8
MINUTES OF THE AGING COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON JANUARY 26, 2010**

PRESENT

K. Pesce
T. Durham
B. Fettman
Lee Furman
I. Ladimer
Robert Ackerson
Doris Bendheim
Bayla Butler
Gene Fein
Alan Ferster
L. Furman
Marvin Goodman
Ceil Gordet
Kathy Gorup
Richard Kasne
Jane Reilly
Constance Segal
Manfred Segal
A. Shatkin
Robert Stein
Larry Tallamy
Douglas Thomas

AFFILIATION

Committee Chair, CB 8
CB 8
CB 8
Riverdale Mental Health Association
CB 8
Riverdale Senior Services
Riverdale Senior Services

NYC Adult Protective Services
Riverdale Mental Health Association
Riverdale Senior Services

Classic Residence by Hyatt
Riverdale Senior Services
Park Gardens
Riverdale AARP
Riverdale AARP
Riverdale Senior Services

Atria
Atria

1. Minutes of previous meeting accepted as submitted.

2. Speaker: Alan Ferster, Director of Community Affairs, and NYC Adult Protective Services (APS): Funding for the agency is by NYC/NYS in a mandated program. Eligibility is anyone over 18 years old who is physically or mentally impaired, regardless of income or assets and who has no one able/willing to help manage their affairs and who is living independently; mandate is to keep people living in the community. There are currently 8,000 clients; APS caseworkers have a caseload of approximately 30-40. Referrals come from facilities, neighbors, anyone. After possible eligibility is determined, a caseworker must make an in person assessment within 72 hours. Many of those referred refuse to be assessed when caseworker arrives. Sixty percent of clients are over 60 years. Services provided by APS include paying bills, especially to avoid eviction (many clients are hoarders whose living habits encourage vermin), referrals for meals on wheels, intervening in instances of financial exploitation, physical assault, neglect, drug problems; arranging for homecare after authorization by a contracted physician who does at home visit, clean out of apartments of hoarders. APS will go to court system to get guardian ad litem to stop eviction and to assist client in handling needs. Appointed guardian can apply to court to get needed services. APS doesn't challenge any attorney appointments/decisions. APS contracts for services with NY Foundation for Senior Citizens, JASSA, other. Contact for Adult Protective Services: 212-630-1918.

3. Reports

- a) Classic Residence by Hyatt: thank you to Kathy Gorup for hosting. A nurse is on duty 4/7 and attendance is taken at all meals to verify residents are present or accounted for. There is assessment and risk management done on residents at regular intervals to ensure the appropriate level of service is available.
- b) I. Ladimer, CB 8: related to APS presentation, how long should someone stay in the system and no NYC funding available to move clients out of system into another program which would meet long term needs. Training program for Police Departments, (pilot program in 50th Precinct) is proposed which would identify those who might have medical problems, including dementia, causing them to wander aimlessly and be misdiagnosed by police members as being a community threat.
- c) T. Durham, CB 8: Silver Alert, a law aimed at older adults and comparable to Amber Alert for missing youth has been passed in New Jersey. Older adults who are at risk for wandering or who are lost from their usual residence are registered on a "find" list for authorities. Assemblyman Dinowitz's office has been contacted regarding similar legislation for NY.
- d) BJCC: BJCC and NORC Senior Service mission is to have people live as independently as long as possible.
- e) M. Goodman, Riverdale Senior Services: Chair of Retired School Supervisors
- f) A. Shatkin: Database had been maintained by Fire Department of area residents who were disabled/had dementia. Unclear if that's up to date.
- g) G. Fein, RSS: Senior Centers want to increase outreach to those who don't utilize senior centers. Chair's comment: should we ask our neighbors if they know available resources?
- h) M. Segal, AARP: KRMC Food and Hunger Project: (Kingsbridge/Riverdale/Marble Hill): food pantry supplies at Church of the Mediator are depleted as quickly as food is brought in. There have been money donations from area banks and individuals. There are no longer government food surplus programs for those in need. Food, nonperishable, is urgently needed and can be brought into the Church on all days or into the pantry on Tuesday. Contact Meliva at 718-548-3312.
- i) L. Furman, RMHA: Westchester County provides bags for inside refrigerator and outdoor refrigerator door tags to identify contact information and medications for emergency service personnel. Need to follow up.
- j) D. Thomas/L. Tallamy, Atria Riverdale: Caregivers Support group will begin February 21st at 10:30 AM and will be held the third Sunday of every month.
- k) B. Fettman, CB 8: MTA is considering cuts in services for adults/disabled/school children. Need a resolution from this committee requesting that proposal not be implemented. Consideration of use of stimulus funds to eliminate the need.
K. Pesce to work on resolution.

Next meeting 2/23/10, Tuesday, 3:30PM.

Submitted by,

Karen Pesce
Chairperson
Aging Committee

KP:db

