

**COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8 BRONX
MINUTES OF THE HEALTH, HOSPITALS & SOCIAL SERVICES
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 15, 2008**

PRESENT

Martin Katzenstein
Beverly Fettman
Philip Friedman
Joyce Pilsner
Martin Wolpoff
Capt. Thomas Dunleavy
Joe Hendler
John Rios

AFFILIATION

CB 8, Committee Chair
CB 8
CB 8
CB 8
CB 8
FDNY Division 2, Station 19
Community Resident
Jewish Child Care Association

Chairperson's Report

- It was requested that the H&H Committee switch meeting times with the Traffic & Transportation Committee relative to use of the Board office (from the 3rd Monday each month to Tuesday.) A trial of this meeting time change will start in January. If attendance is adversely affected, meetings will return to original time.

Agenda

Discussion on the Atria:

- Several follow-up items were requested from Atria several months earlier. Representatives of Atria will be invited to an upcoming meeting to check on progress of those items.
- It is noted that the Atria entity has installed emergency generators at the Riverdale facility as well as at several other of their facilities in New York City.

EMS/50th Precinct EMS Outpost Continuance:

- The new EMS station being constructed in the adjacent community board is still in-progress. Construct duration is anticipated as 18 months starting from July 2008.
- There has been no new news regarding the 50th Precinct EMS restocking outpost; no indication that it will remain open or close. The Public Safety Committee will be asked to discuss the matter with the Precinct Commanding Officer.
- The restocking outpost future may be in the hands of the Precinct Commanding Officer.
- It is noted that there will be budget cuts within FDNY. (4) Fire Houses will be closed during the nighttime hours; one of these (4) houses is located on City Island.
- It is further noted that there has not been concrete news on EMS cuts though it is expressed that citywide, (100) EMS tours may be eliminated (tour = ambulance shifts – 30 EMS ambulances @ 8 hr shifts = 30 tours.) Since areas of CB 8 are relatively remote (i.e. Riverdale areas), it is unlikely that 'tours' would be eliminated in the CB8 area.
- EMS response times in the CB8 areas are at the average numbers EMS expects. Tier 1 & 2 emergency responses are under 6 minutes – within citywide averages.
- EMS has a new emphasis on getting ambulances into service faster – using new innovative ideas to accomplish this goal.
- Chairperson requests EMS response times for review at next Committee meeting.

Old Business

No Old Business

New Business

Department of Human Services & Foster Care Proposed Changes

Guest Representative: From foster care agency – “Jewish Child Care.” – Representative of proposed coalition.

- Jewish Child Care is a contracted foster care agency contracted through the NYC Department of Human Services.
- New RFP (Request For Proposal) would pair up high need districts and low need districts as coalitions relative to services to be provided for child care (i.e. ‘Head Start’ program, etc.) to coordinate all services and care to be within the same community where target child already lives. This maintains familiarity and contact with friends and other family members and continuity in same school to normalize the experience as best as possible.
- Another purpose of the RFP is to provide services to children in need faster.
- Some of the changes to normalize the experienced for children would be to coordinate visitations at local restaurants (i.e. Burger King’s), recreational areas, etc. instead of Agency Offices.
- Current Service Planning Areas (SPA’s) are to be converted to Community Partnership Initiatives (CPI’s.) These CPI’s are the entities that would be funded through the award of the RFP.
- Former Mayor Giuliani & Mayor Bloomberg appears supportive of ACS & Neighborhood Model.
- There would be a proposed (25) neighborhood networks.
- It is acknowledged that there is a lack of Mental Health Providers in The Bronx CB 1 community, especially for children.
- A possible high need and low need pairing would be Community Board 4 (Yankee Stadium area) with Community Board 8.
- The new RFP issued is providing funding to contract agencies for the coalitions. Each coalition would have a liaison similar to the distract manager position in community boards.
- For medical care, Jewish Child Care works with Bronx Lebanon Hospital, Montefiore Hospital and Lincoln Hospital.
- Jewish Child Care would be a CPI member with St Dominic’s.
- A component of the RFP is \$150k in funding for community collaboration.
- Each coalition will have a ‘financial conduit.’
- Any agency can bid for the \$150k collaboration funds but only one contractor (or ‘conduit’) will be awarded the funds per CPI. These funds would be to hire a ‘District Manager’.
- A copy of the RFP will be emailed to the CB 8 office.
- High need vs. Low need is defined as the proportion of need vs. available services within a given area.

Defibrillator Use by General Public:

- The question of auto defibrillator use by an untrained member of the general public is posed to an FDNY representative. He states, in his opinion, trained professionals should only use defibrillators.
- It is stated that CPR is more benign than use of a defibrillator.
- A question is posed as to whether all high school students should be trained in CPR; item to be referred to the Education Committee.

Assistance H&H Can Provide to Disabled in CB8:

- A question is posed as to whether H&H can serve as a resource for information for services for the disabled. This is due to perceived difficulty getting information from existing agencies.
- It is acknowledged that there may be sufficient information and coordination through senior centers but if the disabled person is not a senior, significantly fewer informational resources appear to be available.

- Department of Social Services can provide some assistance but not relative to housing for disabled. It is mentioned that Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) may be of assistance in this matter via 'Supportive Housing.' An available Supportive Housing document is provided.

Adjourned - 8:23PM

Submitted by

Philip Friedman

PF:pm