

COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8 BRONX

**MINUTES OF THE AGING COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON OCTOBER 26, 2010
AT METHODIST HOME FOR NURSING AND REHAB
4499 MANHATTAN COLLEGE PARKWAY**

PRESENT

Karen Pesce
Anthony Creaney
Tom Durham
Irving Ladimer
Beverly Fettman
Robert Ackerson
Debbie Finkelstein

Linda Koebner
Jo Ann Landers
Eden Ruiz
Constance Segal
Manfred Segal
Alvin Shatkin

AFFILIATION

Committee Chairperson, CB#8
CB #8
CB #8
CB #8
CB #8
Riverdale Senior Center
Sarah Lawrence College (Health
Advocacy)
Sarah Lawrence College
Methodist Home for Nursing & Rehab
UCP/NYC
AARP
AARP
Riverdale Senior Center

1. Minutes of previous meeting accepted as submitted.

2. Speaker, Eden Ruiz, United Cerebral Palsy

Income eligible residents of the 5 boroughs can have home modifications made to kitchen/bathroom to make the environment safer, i.e. ramps, stair glides, grab bars, ADA kitchens and bathrooms at no cost. Program is funded by the Division of Housing and Community Renewal, NYS, and may run out of funds in a year. Income guidelines are 80% of median income: four people, \$61,000; three people \$55,300; two people, \$49,000 as reported to the IRS. Eligibility is determined also by application and a copy of resident's lease or homeownership; approval from co-op boards may be required. If candidate lives in landlord owned space, the resident must live there for five years after improvements are made; if for a shorter period, the landlord must agree to rent to another appropriate resident who can make use of the improvements. After required application has been approved, a home visit by a physical or occupational therapist is scheduled to determine needs.

There is a wait list in Brooklyn, Queens and funding can be shifted between boroughs.

3. Budget report: 25 expense items can be submitted by each Community Board. This Committee doesn't request capital items. Four items have been submitted from our list of priorities: maintain Senior Centers in accessible locations (none closed in our area,

but citywide there were reportedly 55 closures); maintain transportation programs and funding; maintain case management services and provide support services maintain and fund adult daycare social model services.

4. Reports

Riverdale Senior Services: Bazaar will be held Sunday, 10/31, 10-3PM with sales of plants, bikes, miscellany, refreshments, 2600 Netherland Avenue.

Kittay House: wartime veterans may be entitled to reside at Kittay House with income from the VA. An open house is scheduled for Thursday, 10/28. Kittay/Jewish Home Lifecare's 60/40 anniversary was attended by A. Creaney and K. Pesce—a very nice event.

NYC Marathon, 11/7: volunteers are being sought to greet and cheer the runners as they enter the Bronx, Willis Avenue and 135th Street, the Energy Zone; approximately greeting time is 11am and on. News note: the Silver Alert program was passed by NYS, designed to identify wandering/lost dementia people and return them to their homes.

Kiwanis: an outreach planning and goal setting program for intergenerational activities is scheduled for 11/3 at Riverdale Senior Services. The Golden K Chapter is spearheading, seeking youth who can especially benefit from the mentor role of older adults. Methodist Home for Nursing and Rehab may be interested in collaborating.

Methodist Home for Nursing and Rehab: open to the public at no cost, 11/10 mammography for women; 11/10, 7pm Con Edison on energy saving tips.

Sarah Lawrence grad students, Debbie and Linda: they are doing a community assessment for healthcare access in Riverdale by interviewing both homebound and independent seniors. They're based at MCH. Sarah Lawrence is also seeking other internship opportunities.

AARP: the new healthcare legislation is designed to phase in incrementally. There will be no discrimination for pre-existing conditions. People currently in the "donut hole" for prescription medications will receive \$250. Next year the donut hole expense before eligibility will be decreased. Annual physical exam and preventive tests will be covered.

Social Security should be able to pay current benefits until 2037.

AARP continues to solicit donations and food for food pantry based in Church of Mediator.

Housing Chair: Manhattan College is considering a senior activity center at a site located at intersection of Waldo and Manhattan College Parkway, currently a parking lot. A public hearing hasn't been scheduled.

Bronx Tour, the largest free cycling event with either 25mi or 40mi route, is scheduled for 10/31, ending at Bronx Botanical Garden. Contact Tom Durham for info.

Miscellaneous: Expected to be on market next year is a gps tracking shoe to identify location of someone who has wandered and can't be located.

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 23, 3:30pm, location TBA. Possible speaker on hoarding.

Submitted by,

Karen Pesce, Chairperson
Aging Committee