



Social Services & Housing Committee Meeting **Minutes**

December 5, 2017

Board Members Present: Rosemary Ordonez-Jenkins (Committee Chair), Justin Westbrook-Lowery (Co-Chair), Loretta Masterson, Daniel Porro, James Tynan, Nelson Peralta, Angel Martinez, Nicholas Himidian

Meeting Start Time: 7:00 P.M.

Attendees of meeting introduced themselves.

Old business

Rosemary Ordonez-Jenkins talked about Mental Health Fair being cancelled because the Church was closed. Ms. Ordonez-Jenkins reached out to Sotomayor to find out about available days to reschedule the Mental Health Fair and for a date for the Senior Symposium. The dates that were held and available are the following:

March 17th, 2018- Mental Health Fair

April 20th, 2018- Senior Symposium

Rosemary asked for the flyer to be updated and for a follow up with Elected Officials and she will ask Shirley to reach out to Joshua from Mayor's office

Mental Health Fair planning:

- Event would be from 12 pm to 4 pm
- Panel would be 2 pm to 3pm
- Cleanup would be 4 pm to 5pm
- Donations will be made from Metro Plus and Montefiore
- Healthy snacks such as, fruits, veggie platter, water, granola bars, and other healthy snacks. Nicholas Himidian (Chairman) says to contact vendors and see what they can offer and then figure out if it can be used. Rosemary also reached out to Well Care.

Sotomayor

Chairman Nicholas Himidian says he'd like for attention to be focused on the Sotomayor Center (get it on agenda). Mr. Himidian states he'd like to get it fixed, cleaned up and help feed the kids and with get afterschool programs. Rosemary states that there is an afterschool there but as far as the repairs that is NYCHA. Ms. Ordonez-Jenkins suggests to invite a representative and director of the center to come to a meeting so issues/concerns can be addressed.

Nelson Peralta says NYCHA's budget comes in July 1st, and they need to be reached out to before then. Mr. Peralta also suggests that at Seniors Connected the committee should touch base with some of the elected officials in regards to what's needed at Sotomayor. Second suggestion is to gather as group and go to Sotomayor and with volunteers

Both Mr. Himidian and Ms. Ordonez-Jenkins says a letter should be written in regards to this

Justin Westbrook-Lowery states one thing that is problematic is that every time there is a budget only 1% is dealt with by the City Council and one thing that's left out of the Mayor's base budget is services for the NYCHA senior centers. They always want to cut the services but then the City Council has to take money out of their budget to help run the senior centers. Mr. Westbrook-Lowery says what should be considered doing is to get ahead of the curb and saying that services that are already provided by NYCHA senior centers are protected. Daniel Porro says its senior centers and children centers, these are things that have been effected over the years because of budget shifts.

Mr. Himidian (chairman) suggests to start off with a list of all things that needs to be spoken about if so they can be addressed when representative attends meeting.

Ms. Ordonez-Jenkins says we can try to get a representative for January or if that's too soon in February.

New Business

Whole Foods Plant Based Update (Letter attached)

Rogier announces another communal #WFPB on December 16th, at St Helena's cafeteria. In this case an adaptation of an Ecuadorian dish, courtesy of Fatima who is the cook for the school.

*\$15 for RSVP

Meeting Adjourned: 7:45 P.M.

Minutes Transcribed by CB9 staff.