

Community Board 9
890 Nostrand Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11225
Health and Social Services Committee Meeting Minutes

October 6, 2022
Meeting ID:845 4081 7100

Attendance (Board Members): Francisca Leopold Committee Chair; Mayna Legoute; Milford Prewitt

Attendance (Community Resident Members): Enid Dillard; Barbara Lindsey; Reyana McKenzie; Cecilia Yampolsky; Kayla Williams

Absent (Board Members): None

Absent (Community Resident Members): Vanya Mayers

CB9 Staff: Mia N. Hilton, Assistant District Manager

I. Call to Order

- a.** Committee Chair, Francisca Leopold called the meeting to order at 7:06pm

II. Ice Breaker

- a.** Chair Leopold got the meeting started by asking the committee “what was your major achievement for the week?” Answering her own question, Leopold helped organize and run a well-attended, multi-agency and community-group resource fair under the Human Rights Commission’s umbrella. Several hundred people attended the affair at the plaza at Flatbush Junction. Leopold said the fair was important to the HSS Committee because of what the participating groups know, the opportunity to liaise with them and collaborate on mutual goals.
- b.** Enid Dillard, a marketing executive with One Brooklyn Health, also helped organize and run a health-oriented resources fair that was well attended. The event was focused on helping young people – 18-to-25 – with cognitive disabilities and mental illness find care and housing in Brooklyn whether than be shipped to Long Island health care facilities. Like Leopold, Dillard said the participating groups could use our help finding housing for their clients. In unrelated activity, Dillard said One Brooklyn Health is participating in several breast cancer awareness events during the month of October. Flyers will be going out soon.
- c.** Barbara Lindsey had a personal plea for the committee members. She has an adult daughter who is undergoing chemotherapy for cancer for the second time, and she asked the members to pray for her daughter. Leopold said she appreciated that Lindsey shared her daughter’s struggle with the committee and assured her she would be in our prayers.

- d. Leopold said she wanted committee members to engage in more outreach with senior citizens centers to find out what they need and how can the HSS committee help. She said she discovered recently that some senior citizen facilities, nursing homes and shelters in the district have never had a visit from a CB9 member.
- e. Kayla Williams and Mayna Legoute were tapped to create a sub-committee dealing with youth affairs. Their top priority is to get young people involved in CB9.
- f. Leopold said come January she wants to have a public forum sponsored by the HSS committee on “emotional health.” Details will follow.

III. Old Business

- a. Milford Prewitt gave an update on the Americans with Disabilities Act and business compliance with the law in the district. As Prewitt explained at the September meeting, he has contracted Parkinson’s Disease and it has evolved into a personal issue when he eats out or shops at certain establishments with abutments and can’t enter. Walking, climbing stairs and maintaining one’s balance without falling are almost impossible were it not for his walker. At the suggestion of Leopold, he was going to attend the Public Safety Committee meeting this month to solicit their help as that committee has purview over such issues. Lindsey said she knew of a mom-and-Pop, pizza-and-chicken-wings joint that appears to be out of code with the ADA, as well. She said she would work with Prewitt and sent him the address and photo of the place. Prewitt and Lindsay are compiling a list of violators to send to the board for consideration of enforcement.
- b. Leopold repeated her urging to committee members that we do a better job reaching out to senior citizen centers and family homeless shelters, especially now that the holidays are approaching. She proposed that we could do a food delivery, a party, or some form of entertainment for seniors. Gifts of socks, food, clothing, men’s and women’s toiletries and toys for the kids who live in shelters could be donated as well. She said such generosity would cost \$1,000 to \$2,000. She asked the board members to search their closets for clothing donations. She said she had two facilities in mind. “I don’t want us to be the kind of committee that meets once a month and nothing happens,” she said. She added that a modest budget is available to help finance whatever we do for seniors.

IV. Adjournment

- a. Meeting Adjourned 8:13 p.m.