



Donovan Richards
Queens Borough President

Community Board No. 2

43-22 50th Street, 2nd Floor
Woodside, New York 11377

(718) 533-8773

Fax (718-533-8777

Email qn02@cb.nyc.gov

www.nyc.gov/queenscb2

Danielle Brecker
Chairperson

Debra Markell Kleinert
District Manager

February 13th, 2023

Health and Human Services and Education Committee Meeting Minutes

This meeting was teleconferenced using Zoom

Attendees:

Lauren Springer, Chair
Clara Oza, Co-Chair
Amparo Abel-Bey
Dr. Rosamond Gianutsos

Absentees:

John Bahia
Sandra Bigitschke
Jewel Chowdhury
Selena Romero
Phuntsok Tah
Mary Torres

Public Members

Julie Chou
Atanu Majumdar
Andrea Thomas, Sunnyside Community Services

Guest

Shyvonne Noboa, Associate Executive Director of Senior Services/Supervisor, Sunnyside Community Services

Community Board 2 Staff

Debra Markell Kleinert, District Manager, Community Board 2

Lauren Springer, Chair Health & Human Services and Education Committee welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Lauren Springer started the meeting with the two new Public Members introducing themselves.

Atanu Majumdar, Public Member

- Associate Director at Elmhurst Hospital
- He works in In-patient Case Management.
- To optimize a patient's stay from the beginning to when they leave.

Julie Chou, Public Member

“Serving the Communities of Long Island City, Sunnyside, Woodside, and Maspeth”

- Architect specializing in affordable supportable and transitional housing
- She's also a member of CB5 in midtown working on public restrooms.

Lauren Springer introduced Shyvonne Noboa from Sunnyside Community Services.

Shyvonne Noboa, Associate Executive Director of Senior Services/Supervisor at Sunnyside Community Services

- Shyvonne Noboa spoke about a new service at Sunnyside Community Services called Elder Justice.
- The services will help seniors who identify with elder abuse.
- Elder abuse affects everyone. The individual and the community at large.
- All socioeconomic groups, cultures and races.
- It affects those that are especially disconnected from support.
- The different types of abuses are emotional, psychological, sexual, neglect and most often financial exploitation.
- Incidences of elder abuse are much greater than what is actually reported.
- The Elder Justice program is funded by the NYC Department for the Aging.
- SCS will be focusing on a broader service of justice. They want to prevent/protect abuse from happening.
- They want to support those affected and help them recover.
- SCS will be providing services to those that identify as victims. (This was the term used by the presenter).
 - Counseling
 - Case management – housing, benefits, legal services
 - Support groups
 - Pay for transportation for court appearances, hospital visits, precincts or to go to SCS.
 - If locks need to be changed.
 - Legal services – SCS is creating partnerships with NYLAG, the DA office and family court.
- For the community the services will be:
 - Education and outreach in what abuse is
 - Training – their team is getting trained by the city on different types of abuse, this training can take place at local adult centers or the local Y
 - Increase awareness that elder abuse is going on.
 - Engaged with law enforcement, healthcare providers.

A question was asked about a restorative justice model.

- SCS will be working with victims and potential abusers who want to go the police.
- SCS will also be working with victims whose abusers live with them.
- They will discuss with these victims safe places and care planning

A question was asked about screening tools if there are any cognitive issues.

- Shyvonne Noboa replied that SCS has numerous screenings as it relates to depression, mental and cognitive issues.
- Every case is different as it deals with family and case workers.
- SCS has a team of social workers that do home visits.
- SCS will be concentrating on asking the right questions and how the victim replies in return.

The community board can help this program by getting the word out and by having presentations. SCS is currently working on a contact line for abuse issues.

Julie Chou gave an update on the public restrooms:

- Her team is currently working on zoning text amendment for POPS (Public Owned Public Space).
- POPS require access to public bathrooms
- They will take this resolution to the Manhattan Borough Board as well as DCP.
- Developers who give public space to the community will get extra floors as a trade off. The future developers will be asked to provide public bathrooms. Public Space given without public bathrooms is not accessible for some communities.
- Restaurants and stores over 20 occupants are required to have a restroom, but they are not required to allow the public to use them without purchasing something.
- In London, they give the stores a stipend to allow the restrooms be open to the public. An agency might be approached to see if they are open to this idea.

The Health & Human Services & Public Safety Committee had a discussion about topics for the future meetings and/or initiatives the HHSE committee can take

- Humanitarian Emergency Response and Relief Centers (HERRC) sites for asylum seekers
- Homeless situation and the hotel sites.
- How traffic accidents affect the community the victims of these accidents.
- Locations for free health screenings in CB2 area.
- Compiling and/or vetting info for Resource Guide for families with children.
- Community Health Profile – invite the person who updates this
- Fidel Monroe - The Bureau of Healthcare and Community Readiness

Lauren Springer thanked everyone for their attendance.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kim Waber