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Health & Human Services Committee

February 10th, 2011

Community Board 11 Office

1664 Park Avenue

New York, NY 10035

Present: David L Giordano, Hans Desnoyers, Joseph Goldbloom, Jewel Jones, Olga Ambert & Deborah, Quinones, Amie Petrucci

Absent: Erik Mayor, Monica Brown, Beverly Alston

Excused: Willie May Goodman & Martin Garcia

Guest(s): Frances Mestroda, C. Wainwright, M. Hernandez, M. Ealy, B. Sothern

Opening Remarks:

The H&HS Committee Chair called meeting to order welcoming committee members and guests. The Committee Chair went over Agenda items to be discussed, stating that the main focus of this Committee meeting would be addressing the Budget Priorities. The Committee Chair began with announcements:

Announcements

1. Johnny Rivera reminded H&HS Committee about the monthly Round Table discussions at Mt. Sinai and the networking opportunities with so many organizations and community partners. The next luncheon will be February 17th at 12:00 pm.
2. Deborah, Quinones Mentioned that she could assist in obtaining speakers to present on HIV/AIDS at the Round meetings and/or at other community forums. Ms. Quinones also mentioned the raising concerns with HIV and Aging.
3. Jewel Jones: Announced Metropolitan Hospital Center CAB is sponsoring 2011 Legislative Luncheon at Draper on March 11th, 2011 from 12:00 Noon to 2:00 PM.
4. Mr. Wainwright of Volunteers of America Introduced himself and staff in attendance. Mr. Wainwright briefly mentioned services offered by VOA at Wards Island, and that he would like to meet with the Board to address any issues or concerns regarding VOA services or clientele. The Committee Chair explained to Mr. Wainwright the process for requesting to meet with and present before the Board.

Discussions:

Senior Committee: Committee Chair expressed disappointment that the Seniors Committee did not meet on Monday the 7th. The Committee Chair mentioned that the meeting was cancelled twice and that the Board really needs to meet to address the issues raised by the Senior Committee members. The H&HS Committee Chair stressed the importance to meet with the Committee Members regardless if there is going to be quorum or not, so as to follow through with the members request to meet with the H&HS Committee and the Board. During the discussion, members raised several questions, regarding the status of the Senior Committee Chair and clarification of the Senior Committee as a sub-committee within the H&HS Committee. The Committee Chair went over the status of the Seniors Committee being a Sub-Committee of the H&HS Committee and reasons why it is a sub-committee (More Community members than Board members). The Chair also stated that Ms. Diane Greene is still the Senior Committee's Chair and that there has been no change in status that the H&HS Chair was aware of. The Chair did state that Alexandra Versailles has expressed interest in being considered for the Senior Committee Chair if the position is vacant. A suggestion was made that maybe CD 11 Board and Senior Committee Members develop a task force that could work with other strong community senior programs organizations such as Stanley Isaac Center. The Committee Chair again stressed the importance of meeting so that these issues, concerns can be discussed, and decisions made so as to move forward. Chair asked for support of H&HS Committee from members in attending meeting so we can go forward with the process.

Budget Priorities

The Chair opened the discussion regarding the Budget priorities by stressing the importance to take time to examine, evaluate and put into operation these budget priorities. The Committee Chair handed out copies of the Budget Priorities and a Form developed to capture information regarding the priorities, goals, presenting issues, concerns, barriers, obtainable outcomes and solutions in developing a plan of action. Chair went over the two Budget priorities and asked members which one would each prefer to focus on. The Committee had some in depth discussion regarding the history of why these two issues became priorities, how long these have been priorities? Are these still relevant to and maybe need amending to fit more in line for what's really needed within the community at this time. Overall, in relation to the hiring of more bilingual Doctors, it was felt that there has been some improvement. In this area, there was additional concern raised regarding the need for more and improved health care, especially with the looming and anticipated cuts to treatment. Need for prevention was again discussed and a focus of health care needs for this community. Additionally, the group looked at these priorities and how they may also overlap into more than one committee- Such as Pest Control being also possibly going under the housing committee and working collaboratively with other committees. The Chair then asked members to think about and prepare for the next meeting, how do we address and put into operation these two budget priorities. Committee members were also asked to send to Norma, their responses to the Budget Priorities form so that we can discuss and finalize at March's Meeting. . The Chair expressed that it is important for everyone to step up and take on an assignment in support of these budget priorities in their commitment as committee members.

Motions: None

New Business: None

Action Items: None

Adjournment

Ms. Ambert moved to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Joe Goldbloom and passed unanimously.