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COMMUNITY BOARD ELEVEN

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Health & Human Services Committee
February 1, 2010
Community Board 11 Office
1664 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10035

Present: Beverly Alston, Brodie Enoch, Martin Garcia, David L. Giordano, Jewel Jones,
Johnny Rivera

Absent: Joan Williams, Guedy Arnelia, Ann-Gel Palermo, Theresa Richardson,

Excused: Willie Mae Godman, Debbie Quiñones, Monica Brown, Joseph Goldbloom

Guest(s): Michelle Ramos,

Opening Remarks:

At 7:30 PM, the Committee Chair David Giordano called the meeting to order. All members and guests were welcomed and thanked for their attendance.

Discussions and Presentations:

East River Plaza – Solicitation for Food Bank

The Chair opened the meeting by first addressing Agenda item 1C: East River Plaza Solicitation for Food Banks as this was a long standing item that needed to be moved forward. The Chair explained that as part of the East River Plaza MOU it was agreed that the developers would provide funding to a mutually agreed upon local Food Bank/Pantry to distribute food donated from Costco. Tiago agreed to provide a selected organization with a total \$100,000. The funds will be paid quarterly over four years to expand the existing services of a local non-profit food bank to distribute food to needy residents of Community Board 11.

Committee members were given 10 minutes to review the draft for the Solicitation for Proposals Food Bank Donations. After reviewing the draft, members had discussion regarding the type of service focusing on the Work Requirements, submission of the proposal and financial viability of the organization seeking the grant. The committee made the following suggestions and changes to the proposal. Specifically, the changes were related to section, 3: Work Requirements; Mandatory Requirements (Adding: 501c 3 Non-Profit Organization; ...3 or more years of ... within the area of providing Food Bank and meal distribution services). Another requirement the committee

recommended was that all applicants must display financial viability by submitting certified copies of their financial records and audits as part of the application. There was also discussion regarding how proposals will be submitted: E-mail, Postal Mail with post mark or hand delivered. The committee decided that the solicitation for proposal need to be available to put out April 21st, 2010 and the date for submission to George Sarkissaian at the Board Office would be no later than 5:00 pm on May 21st, 2010.

After much discussion and few edits, Ms. Beverly Alston made a motion to accept the draft for Solicitation of Proposal Food Bank Donations notwithstanding the changes discussed. The motion was seconded by J. Martin Garcia and passed unanimously.

Committee Mission, Vision and Goals

The Committee then moved on to reviewing and discussing the Mission Statement, the Goals and Vision of the Health and Human Service Committee.

The Committee Chair suggested that the committee should focus more on reviewing the current mission before the committee re-establishes new goals and a new vision. The Committee members agreed to focus the discussion on the Mission and to defer the goals and vision to after we have formulated and clarified the committee's Mission Statement. After taking a moment to review the current mission statement, committee members were in agreement that that the current Mission Statement reads more as health as the primary objective guiding the work of the committee. However, this current Mission Statement only encompasses a fraction of the committee's representation that make up the committee. Questions were raised regarding how we define ourselves as a committee and does our mission statement define who and what we are as a committee. Especially now that other former committees full under this committee. It was further explained that the Senior, Mental Retardation, and Immigration Committees are now sub-committees of the Health & Human Services Committee because they fall under the category of human services and as they cannot be self standing committees due to the fact that there are more public members than Board members on the committees which thereby prevents the committees from conduction certain committee business/functions. In discussions with the Board Chair regarding this new focus, there has been dialogue of changing the name of the committee, to the Human Services Committee because it now encompasses additional services and areas that are currently falling under the jurisdiction of the Health & Human Service Committee. There was also discussion **that we** incorporate the Sub Committees and those Sub Committee Chairs in being part of the Health & Human Services Committee. The Committee agreed that with new board members joining next month we should table issues regarding: Mission Statement as well as Vision and Goals.

New business:

Under new Business, discussion centered on the proposed Sugar Tax & Budget Cuts: business, the issues regarding whether the Committee and larger Board are in support of the proposed Sugar Tax that is currently being considered. Two issues of concern were: How will the money collected be used, where will the sugar tax money go, will it go to address these health concerns and treatment attributed from illnesses such as obesity, diabetes etc... or will it be used to offset the current deficit. Members also felt the name Sugary Tax should be changed to a more positive representation of what the intention of the money will support. Discussion also centered on the health care cuts that are being proposed which will deeply affect health services within the East Harlem Community. Overall, the Committee supported the sugar tax and agreed to write a letter of support. The Committee Chair agreed to draft a letter and send out to Committee Members to review before the next board meeting so that we can put before the full Board Meeting as New Business.

Discussion of Health & Human Announcements

- Brodie Enoch, Public Outreach Task Force stated that he is working and producing Public Television shows/programming on the Community Board and Board Committees and he feels that the issues and discussion surrounding the this committee's Mission Statement would be a great topic to film and present. The Committee will discuss further.
- Michelle Ramos, Diabetes Impact Center - Outreach program talked about the program's services available addressing diabetes. Ms. Ramos also mentioned several community functions: May 8th, 2010 115th street Block Party on Nutrition, Education, Fitness, Healthy living as well as Health screenings available. Seventh Annual Community Health Fair, Saturday April 17th, 2010 from 11:00AM – 4:00PM at 102nd street between 5th avenue and Madison. Ms. Ramos also mentioned that they partnered with Transportation Alternatives to co-sponsor Community Workshop/Forum on Thursday April 15th on how to improve the safety of the streets for pedestrians and bicycles (cyclist). safety Lincoln Houses

Action Items

1. Ms. Beverly Alston made a motion to accept the draft for Solicitation of Proposals Food Bank Donations notwithstanding the changes discussed. The motion was seconded by J. Martin Garcia and passed unanimously.

Adjournment

J Martin Garcia moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.