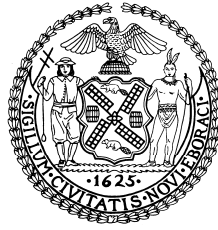


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The City of New York
Manhattan Community Board 8

Health, Seniors, and Social Services Committee Meeting
The Museum of Motherhood
401 East 84th Street (First-York)
June 27, 2013
6:30PM

Community Board members in attendance: Jacqueline Ludorf, Ellen Polivy, Barbara Rudder

Public Member in attendance: Jeffrey Ascherman

Excused Board Members: Molly Blayney

Unexcused Board Members: Hattie Quarstrom

1) Introduction to the Upper-East-Side's newest museum and community gathering space The Museum of Motherhood.

Joy Rose, Director, discussed how the museum came about and what the current staffing is. They want to stay in the community and grow. This year they participated in the Museum Mile Festival. After becoming more financially solvent they would like to move to a larger space. They have had several international guests as hotels will list them as things to do in New York.

They obtained the space from Gymboree, and made several changes to the space. If you come to the museum they will take you on a tour of the space. They have call to action events i.e. human trafficking. They have a current art of Motherhood area. They do story time, and on weekends they rent out the space for showers, etc.

They also have a pregnancy vest to simulate pregnancy. It gives one who puts it on the feeling of what women go through in pregnancy. They have a Meet the Experts wall, people who have helped them get their program together. The play space is for rent at \$15.00 per adult. They also have a write out live board, questions and books and their responses are found there. The community would be invited to use the space.

This summer they have a course scheduled called Intro to Mother Studies, a six week overview including biology, psychology, history and other topics. As a museum they do not take political sides. It is about the conversation not the politics. They welcome others to come share their ideas at the museum space. The museum is open from 10-6, Monday-Friday. The museum is located at 401 east 84th street.

2) As per the City Charter please be advised that the Dept. of Homeless Services is proposing to amend Title 31 by adding Chapter 3 which covers adults who return to the shelter after leaving the system for an extended period of time.

Basically some adults would be able to go back to the shelter they were previously at and at other times they would have to be assessed. Now if a client leaves for less than 365 days the client will go back to their previous shelter.

Now the adult returnee may have to go through an assessment before being allowed to go back to their original shelter.

We agreed with the diversion assessment, but disagreed that they should spend so much time discussing where one was previously living. This will probably be punitive. Do you have to prove where you were living, and why you can't continue to live any there longer?

It was suggested that we write a letter, expressing our concerns. They will only be put back in the shelter if they have proof that they can't reside where they were previously living. The letter should say giving DHS prior procedures we don't understand why the divergent center has been introduced. It was decided we would write a letter questioning these changes. Looks like a way of keeping people out of the shelter. They want to avoid housing these people. These other people are able bodied and mentally fit so they don't need a shelter.

It was suggested that people can't share housing if it is subsidized, but it seems we can go out on the street. What exactly are the alternative housing options that they mention? We would like a list of the alternative housing options.

The five main points in the letter are 1) what are the alternative housing options. 2) What is the reason for this new rule? 3). Are you forcing these people to return to their prior living places? 4) Will you refer people back to their prior housing even if it puts the host in a health risk or to be evicted, eviction, health, or financial issues? 5) What will happen to the people going directly to the shelter?

Jackie Ludorf
Chair, Health, Seniors, and Social Services Committee