Alida Camp Chair

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The City of New York Community Board 8 Manhattan Health, Seniors, and Social Services Committee Monday, July 21, 2020 - 6:30 PM Conducted Remotely via Zoom

Minutes:

Present: Lori Bores, Meryl Brodsky*, Alida Camp, Anthony Cohn, Rebecca Dangoor, Billy Freeland, Wilma Johnson, Ellen Polivy*, Margaret Price, Barbara Rudder, Cos Spagnoletti, Sheri Weiner

* Public Member

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:32 PM.

Item 1 - Preparation for future programs to address racial injustice affecting Health Care, Social Services, Seniors, and Criminal Justice

The Health, Seniors, and Social Services Committee, which includes Public Safety, convened to address the issues of racial injustice. The Committee and our members will work with the new Racial Injustice Committee to coordinate and organize forums. Board Members raised so many issues for the HSSS Committee to address that we may need to hold multiple meetings each month.

We discussed holding meetings/forums on the following issues:

Preparedness in Case of a New Spike

Because it is projected that a possible spike may occur in the fall, we decided it was imperative to hold this meeting in August. We will find speakers to discuss preparedness in our public and private hospitals, testing labs, a protective equipment, and a plan for nursing and senior centers.

Healthcare Reform: How has our current health care system impacted our entire community?

Examine how to achieve universal access to healthcare.

How can the current insurance model be decoupled from employment, and why is this important?

How does unemployment affect Medicaid?

How do cuts in Medicaid affect seniors and the minority population?

Is there bias in the healthcare system? Why is there a disproportionate maternal mortality? Why do healthy minority children have worse outcomes after surgery than healthy white children?

How can we increase senior mental health access?

What role do our Public Hospitals and community based hospitals play to ensure quality healthcare for all?

How do we ensure all will have access to a vaccine?

Criminal Justice

What is the link between public safety and public health?

What does defunding the police mean?

Who else can provide public safety besides police? What services can the funds support?

What are the pros and cons of bail reform? How does extended jail time affect health and welfare?

Item 2 – Old Business

There was no old business.

Item 3 – New Business

There was no new business.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:58 PM.

Lori Bores, Rebecca Dangoor, and Barbara Rudder, Co-Chairs