

SPOKE

Date: 2/2/21

Presiding: Lisa Wisotsky

Recorder: Jennie Katsaros

Guests: Donald Wuertz representing the Office of Concern Food Pantry, Peggy King Jorde, guest speaker, and Lil Corcoran.

Words of Inspiration: Joyce Dudley Hamilton: Joyce thanked our speaker who will speak about the importance of protecting African Burial Sites. Her information will help us connect with who we are today and how we can rewrite the script of racism.

Grant: Steve presented a \$2000 grant to Donald Wuertz of the Office of Concern Food Pantry for the “Nutrition Plus” program.

Program: Speaker Peggy King Jorde, “Presentation of the Most Significant Trace of the Transatlantic Slave Trade Middle Passage Journey.”

Peggy, who lives in Englewood, is a Cultural Projects Consultant with 30 years experience in architecture and historic preservation projects in New York. She served under three NYC mayors. In 1990, she worked to protect a 17th century African Burial Ground for 20,000 enslaved and free blacks that was discovered during the construction of a federal office building. She led a nationwide architectural design competition for the African Ground National Memorial and Interpretive Center. Peggy, along with a panel of art professionals, commissioned artists for honoring the site.

She is currently working on a preservation and heritage project on St Helena and is producing a London based documentary film about the preservation of the St. Helena, UK “Liberated African Burial Ground.” In the past, St Helena was noted for being Napoleon's final stop, but Peggy would like people to understand that it was the final resting place for many slaves.

Locally, Peggy is working to get funding for two burial grounds in Van Cortlandt Park and Inwood, in upper Manhattan. She is also a consultant with the towns of Teaneck and Edgewater to help them fund their African Burial sites.

Announcement: From Janet Sharma

Members are encouraged to sign up for the Anti-racism Program and Workshop, 2/9 at 9:30 AM or 2/10 6:30 PM.

Attendance: 31