

Community Board 2 gets list of 5 sites proposed for group homes

Five sites in the Community Board 2 area were proposed yesterday by the state Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities to house group homes for the retarded.

The list of sites was announced last night during the monthly meeting of Community Board 2 in Sea View Hospital and Home.

Discussion of the sites by the board was postponed until a public hearing at 8 p.m. next Wednesday in the nurses residence of Sea View.

Two of the proposed sites are in Grasmere, another is in Dongan Hills, one is in New Springville, and one is in Graniteville.

□ A two-family brick house at 630 Hylan Blvd., Grasmere, was proposed for use as a group home. The agency

which would run the home is the Federation Employment and Guidance Service of 114 Fifth Ave., Manhattan. According to the state proposal, the non-profit agency would shelter between six and eight profoundly retarded adults at the site. Half would come from the community board area, and half from the Staten Island Developmental Center. Residents would attend a day-training program and sheltered workshops.

□ A wood frame house at 1082 West Fingerboard Rd., Grasmere, was proposed as a group home to be run by the Staten Island Aid for Retarded Children. The agency would shelter six profoundly retarded adults, who would attend a day-training program and sheltered workshops.

□ A two-family brick house at 158 Cromwell Ave., Dongan Hills, was proposed as a group home to be run by the Association for the Advancement of the Blind and Retarded, 16409 Hillside Ave., Queens. That agency would shelter eight adults, four from the community, and four from the Staten Island Developmental Center, who are severely retarded and blind. Prospective residents, according to the state proposal, could participate in sheltered workshops and a day-training program that teaches basic living skills.

□ The Association for Children with Retarded Mental Development, 902 Broadway, Manhattan, has offered to sponsor a group home proposed for a two-family wood frame house at 42 Gadsen Pl., New Springville. According to the state, the agency will shelter six profoundly retarded adults, half which will come from the community board area, and half from the Staten Island Developmental Center. Residents will be able to participate in sheltered workshops and training programs available.

□ The Catholic Guardian Society of New York has offered to run a group home for six to seven retarded adolescents, from a proposed two-family wood frame house at 1582 Richmond Ave., Graniteville. Half of the prospective residents would come from the community, and half from the Staten Island Developmental Center, according to the proposal.

Under a 1975 court order, residents of the Staten Island Developmental Center, Willowbrook, area to be shifted into community-based facilities, called "group homes." The state plans call for each community board area to have several group homes. These homes will house former developmental center residents, as well as mentally retarded residents already living in the community.

Selection of sites for group homes must be made in accordance with guidelines established by the state Legislature. The guidelines state that community boards must participate in this process.

According to Joseph Manifold, chairman of Community Board 2, each board has 40 days to act on the list of proposed sites submitted to the board by the state.

Within the 40-day period, a public hearing must be held. The community board can then either approve the list of proposed sites, or suggest alternate sites within the board area.

—DIANE LORE