

HIP Health exec is also community activist and volunteer

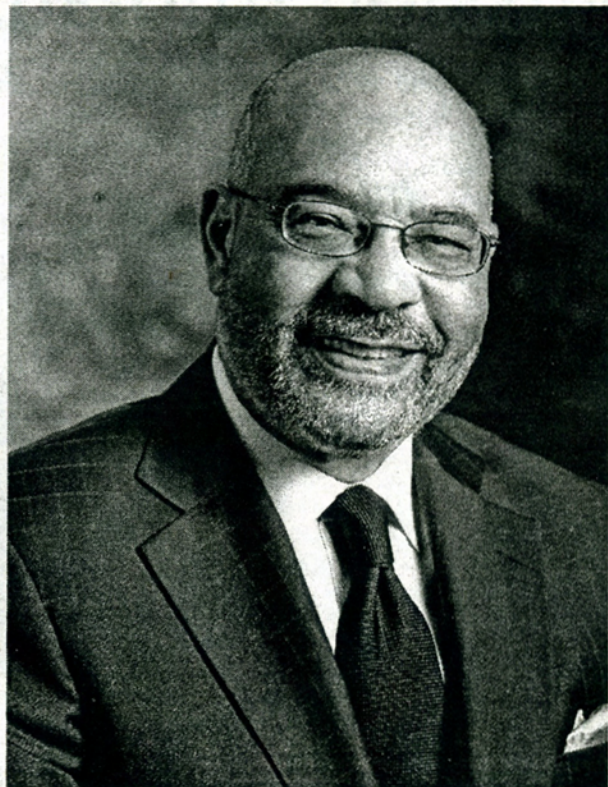
By Maciej Wroblewski

Volunteering, in addition to jazz music, has always played a major part in Arthur H. Barnes' life, so his recent election as a Trustee of Gramercy Park should not be a surprise to anyone who knows this long time resident of the community.

Barnes, who was elected a Trustee with 53 votes out of 63 that were cast, has a long history of serving on numerous volunteer boards. He was a founding member of the New York City Partnership, Associated Black Charities, and Black Agency Executives.

He is a former president of One Hundred Black Men, Inc. and Black Agency Executives, and a former chairman of the Board of Governors for the Jazz and Contemporary Music Program at the New School University.

"All citizens have a responsibility to be involved in their community," he told T&V, explaining that



ARTHUR H. BARNES

giving money to worthy causes and, even more importantly, giving your time, is a wonderful way to express community involvement.

His current affiliations

include being the vice president of the Police Athletic League Board of director and a board member of PENCIL (Public Education Needs Civic Involvement in

Learning) Principal for a Day. Likewise, being a Trustee of his neighborhood park will be right up his alley.

A resident of Gramercy Park for 26 years, Barnes was a member of the board of directors of his co-op building at 39 Gramercy Park North for 12 years and president of the board for 10 years. He has also been an active member of the Gramercy Park Block Association advisory board.

While the neighborhood has not changed much over the last quarter of a century and remains a very unique place in New York City, Barnes believes those who live around Gramercy Park have to double their efforts to maintain it as the great natural resource that it is.

"I pledge to redouble my efforts to work with the Board of Trustees and make the best contribution that I can make in

judgment, resources and experience, so that it can be beneficial to the community," he told T&V.

Professionally, Barnes utilizes his talent for helping others as HIP Health Plan of New York's senior vice president for External Affairs and Corporate Contributions, where he has worked since 1993.

His primary responsibility is to promote the health and well being of the diverse communities that make up New York City and through him, HIP provides grants, scholarships, contributions, sponsorships and in-kind services to non-profit organizations striving to improve the quality of life for city residents.

Before joining HIP, he was president and CEO of the New York Urban Coalition for almost 20 years. From 1972 to 1975 he was vice president for Mediation Services at the Institute for Mediation and Conflict

Resolutions. Prior to that, he had a 21-year association with Consolidated Mutual Insurance Companies, where he started his career as a file clerk and worked his way up to become the position of vice president of administration.

Barnes was born and raised in Harlem where his lifelong admiration for Jazz music was born. He attended the Bronx High School of Science and Brooklyn College. In addition to Jazz, his other interests include photography and gardening, which he pursues at his country home.

He was married for 25 years to Sandra Feldman, former president of the United Federation of Teachers and former president of the American Federation of Teachers in Washington, DC, who passed away last year.

He has two grown children and two grandchildren.