

**Association for the Relief of Aged Women  
Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting, August 13, 2020**

President Rosemary Saber called the meeting to order at 9:38 AM.

**Members in Attendance (Via Zoom):** Bachman, Beaton, Beaulieu, Brooke, Doyle, Ellis, LaFlamme, McKnight, Melo, Natho, O’Connell, Saber, Stankiewicz.

Executive Director Clare Healy Foley and Office Administrator Jenny Costa also present.

**Members Absent:** Pinarreta.

**May Reflection:** Jeannette Doyle shared her safe place in the times of Covid-19 is near the ocean at Fort Phoenix. She read a poem by Mary Oliver entitled *Ocean*:

“I am in love with Ocean  
lifting her thousands of white hats  
in the chop of the storm,  
or lying smooth and blue, the  
loveliest bed in the world.  
In the personal life, there is  
  
always grief more than enough,  
a heart load for each of us  
on the dusty road. I suppose  
there is a reason for this, so I will be  
patient, acquiescent. But I will live  
nowhere except here, by Ocean, trusting  
equally in all blast and welcome  
of her sorrowless, salt self.”

**Report of Clerk:** The minutes of the July 9, 2020 meeting were approved as written. SO VOTED

**Report of President:** President Saber reported:

1. Rosemary read the thank you card received from Gretchen Whipple
  - a. Resigned after serving 13 years on the ARAW Board
  - b. Her time, service and dedication is much appreciated
2. How should resigning board members be recognized?
  - a. Everyone’s time should be acknowledged
  - b. Use judgment on case by case basis as to how

3. Rosemary and Roseanne met with Susan Rothschild
  - a. Susan was presented with gift of bookends
    - i. Thank you for serving as President
  - b. Clare read thank you note from Susan
4. Personnel Committee has been formed
  - a. Pam McKnight (Chair), Olivia Melo, Angela Natho, Jane Stankiewicz, Rosemary (Ex Officio)
  - b. First meeting Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup>
5. Request for Proposal for FY22 Grants
  - a. Released last week
  - b. Olivia praised how well put together
6. Committee Minutes
  - a. Everyone doing an excellent job
  - b. Keeps record of outstanding work being done by each committee
7. Pam McKnight introduced potential new member
  - a. Kathy Mayall
    - i. Businesswoman who grew up in the area
    - ii. Attended Boston College
    - iii. Became Nurse
    - iv. Family owned Keystone Store
    - v. Owned Lazy Boy along with brother – sold 2 years ago
    - vi. Good at financials
    - vii. Town meeting member
    - viii. Involved in contact tracing for Covid-19
    - ix. Interest in elderly – Dad died when she was in her 20s & Mom diagnosed with Alzheimer's
    - x. Excited about the visiting program
  - b. If there are any questions about Kathy – reach out to Debbie within next 7 days

**Report of Executive Director:** Executive Director Clare Healy Foley reported:

1. FLO newsletter
  - a. 2<sup>nd</sup> newsletter sent to all in database last week
  - b. Also sent to all outreach workers to use as a recruitment tool
  - c. Monies budgeted for FLO not being used as they would have due to Covid-19
    - i. Offered Domino's Pizza gift cards (\$15)
      1. Overwhelming response
      2. 44 beneficiaries already requested
      3. Gives Sharon another chance to check in

- a. EDDF for an air conditioner from one of these check ins
  - ii. Offered tickets to Rotch Jones Duff House
    - 1. 3 signed up so far
  - d. Please send items for newsletter if you have them
- 2. ALBA Outreach Update
  - a. Reached out to 40 local organizations so far
  - b. Continuing to formulate follow up plan
  - c. Received direct referral from Justice Bridge Legal Services
- 3. Recent publicity/marketing efforts
  - a. Dartmouth Council on Aging
    - i. Gave ARAW shout out on Facebook
    - ii. Included ARAW in their newsletter
  - b. Dartmouth Police Department
    - i. Gave ARAW shout out on Facebook
    - ii. Large following on Facebook
  - c. Acushnet Council on Aging
    - i. Distributed tailored ARAW brochure at weekly food distribution
- 4. Wamsutta Club
  - a. Now open
  - b. Members encouraged to use – cite ARAW, pay on own
  - c. Celebrated Jenny’s birthday with a lunch there last week
- 5. Beneficiary Highlight
  - a. Janice Alves
    - i. Approved last month for hybrid wheelchair from ARAW
    - ii. Received thank you letters from Anne Sylvia at FCOA and from Janice Alves
  - b. Bernice Duarte
    - i. Called ARAW office – lonely because TV broke 3 days prior
    - ii. ARAW contacted Pat Foster about broken TV
    - iii. Request received the next day and approved through EDDF
    - iv. TV picked up and delivered next day

**Report of Finance Committee:** Treasurer Ellis reported:

- 1. Recommendation to approve July 2020 Financials as written. SO VOTED
- 2. Committee meeting held 7/21/20. Jason presented the recommendation to continue our current portfolio investment strategy of Growth Moderate to Aggressive. With the current strategy and an adjustment of 20% decreased spending and/or increased revenue generation, our financial position

should continue over the next 40 years. This shifts from being an investment strategy to a financial strategy that we will monitor and adjust as appropriate.

3. Committee tasked in Strategic Plan to form an Investment Committee which will be the Investment Advisory Committee which will be tasked with looking at what we are currently doing. Jeannette and Clare are working on a list of criteria for non-ARAW members. It will be a 2-3 year commitment meeting a couple of times a year. All ARAW members asked to share names of those who might meet the criteria. Committee will have 3 non-ARAW members and 2 ARAW Board members which will include the Treasurer and one other.

**Report of Visiting Committee:** Chair Bachman reported:

1. All should have received Visiting packet with assignments in mail and email.
2. 5 month trial of new procedures
3. Up to 3 Board members will sign up to give 3-5 minute reports on one or more of their interactions. Sign-ups for monthly meetings will be sent out.
4. When contacting assignment, emphasize that we are “volunteer” Board members.
5. New ARAW Board members should feel free to reach out to current Board members for support during these first contacts.
6. Contact Clare if an action item comes up during any of the visiting
7. Frequency of contacts will occur organically.
8. If arrange to meet out at another location other than woman’s home, office can organize transportation, if needed.
9. Call office if you plan to meet in person.

**Report of Beneficiary Committee:** Chair Laflamme reported:

1. A motion was made to accept recommendations from the Beneficiary Committee as distributed. SO VOTED
  - a. 18 requests, 11 approved, 6 on hold, 1 declined
2. Committee Chair to highlight one beneficiary each month. This month: E. Watkins, 74yo, income \$742/month, has multiple health care problems with recent sepsis for spider bite requesting recliner to elevate leg.
3. Task Force meeting held 7/20/20.
  - a. Recommendation to accept increase income guideline to \$1,900 for women who live in non-subsidized housing. SO VOTED. Used federal guidelines and information Sharon provided.
  - b. Living alone criteria - if not, qualification based on who “other” is and if they are making a significant contribution to woman’s welfare.

**Report of Governance Committee:** Chair Brooke reported:

1. Committee met 7/10/20
2. Committee descriptions submitted by Committee Chairs. Will review at next Committee meeting.
3. Will review self-evaluation feedback and report back at next Board meeting.
4. Will work on Recruitment plan that looks at skills, diversity, etc. which will assist in more active steps to find Board members. Continue to reach out to Board if know someone who might be a perfect fit for our Board.
5. Committee up to date with tasks noted on Strategic Plan calendar.

**Report of Grants Committee:** Chair Stankiewicz reported:

1. RFP's sent out August 3rd. First info session held yesterday with 6 attendees from 5 different organizations. Three more info sessions set up for this month. Waiting for Standard Times response to Request for Grant announcement info submission.
2. Clare reported at last meeting concerning lack of response from some current grantees. Next update due October 15th.
3. Next Grant Committee meeting will be in early November to begin to review Grant applications. Updates by email in short term.

**Report of the Outreach Committee:** Chair Melo reported:

1. Committee will meet in September.
2. Request made to approve Outreach Committees recommendation to approve purchase of brick for YWCA Adopt a Brick Project for walkway that leads up to the steps of the YWCA's new building addition. YWCA has same values as ARAW supporting women. SO VOTED

**Report of Ad Hoc Personnel Committee:** President Saber reporting for Chair McKnight:

1. Next meeting will be held 8/19/20

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.

Recorded by,

Approved by,

Jenny Costa, Office Administrator &

Gale Beaton, Clerk

Gale Beaton, Clerk