

**Association for the Relief of Aged Women**  
**Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting, September 9, 2021**

**Moment of Silence:** All present had a moment of silence for our beneficiaries who we lost since last meeting: Sally Chace and Peggy Costa

**Reflective Moment:** Diane Laflamme shared four of Maimonides' Eight Levels of Charity:

1. To give reluctantly
2. To give cheerfully but not adequately
4. To give cheerfully, adequately and of your own free will, but to put it in the recipient's hand in such a way as to make him feel lesser
8. To dispense with charity altogether, by enabling your fellow humans to have the wherewithal to earn their own living

**Vice President Jane Stankiewicz called the meeting to order at 9:37 AM.**

A motion was made to authorize the Office Administrator to take meeting minutes for review, approval and distribution by the President. **SO VOTED**

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

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

**Members excused:** Beaton.

The minutes of the August 12, 2021 board meeting were approved as written. **SO VOTED**

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

1. September FLO Newsletter
  - a. More giveaways in lieu of budgeted large event which cannot happen as hoped
  - b. Board members should use newsletter as marketing tool when talking with their beneficiary buddies – encouraging them to participate/attend
  - c. Raffles of Doo Wop and Chowderfest tickets
  - d. Two lunches – backing away from Wamsutta lunches due to issues with bathroom accessibility
  - e. Inserts included:
    - i. Vaccine form & Consent form (only to those without one on file)
    - ii. Survey about programs & interests (suggestion from Grants committee)
      1. Cash prize raffle for completing and returning
      2. Already 37 back from 232 sent
2. ALBA/BA report
  - a. Board remarked on how Sharon's report was touching and splendid
    - i. Great examples of FLO's impact – Lorraine Perry
3. Professional Development

- a. Suggested by Personnel Committee
  - b. Sharon and Pat both to attend Massachusetts Councils on Aging Virtual Conference
4. PFML
- a. New state program
  - b. ARAW previously approved covering employee's portion
  - c. Job remains safe
  - d. Paid 80% based on last year's salary
  - e. Allowance resets annually based on benefit year
  - f. Sharon will be utilizing as intermittent in conjunction with ARAW PTO
5. COVID update
- a. Taking it day by day
  - b. Requiring masks in ARAW office for staff and visitors
  - c. Requiring FLO luncheon attendees be vaccinated
  - d. Programs
    - i. NBAM art classes at the Dartmouth COA – vaccination status not asked, must be masked
    - ii. Zeiterion – requiring vaccination and masks
    - iii. Whaling Museum – requiring masks
6. Vacation update
- a. Clare on vacation October 14<sup>th</sup> through November 2<sup>nd</sup>
    - i. Going unless cruise is canceled
    - ii. Office has coverage plan in place, may call on board support
7. Beneficiary highlight
- a. Two examples of ARAW model working
    - i. Celeste Forte
      - 1. Hoarder and previously resistant to programs
      - 2. Needed new fridge
      - 3. Pat Midurski assessed needs
        - a. Request for fridge to ARAW
        - b. Referred to Brittany Botelho from the ANCHOR program to connect to programs
          - i. Request came back for financial assistance for social day
    - ii. Carol Lyons
      - 1. Request for bed – lots of back and forth
      - 2. Pat Midurski did home visit
        - a. Able to tell that back and forth was due to Carol's psyche
        - b. Determined to be valid request
        - c. Without in person would not have full picture
        - d. Pat discussed situation with Coastline representative

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

1. Explanation of financial reports given at August board meeting
2. A motion was made to approve August 2021 Financials as written. SO VOTED
  - a. Last Blast sponsorship currently captured in grants as place holder – can be moved
3. Still reviewing on Spending Strategy

**Report of Visiting Committee:**

1. Visiting reports
  - a. Roseanne O’Connell reported on Anita Roderick, Mary Sharples and Laura Herr
  - b. Mary Ellis shared past ARAW beneficiary Jeanne Quintin is now at Care One on hospice
  - c. Pam McKnight reported on her in person visit with Joanne Duchesneau
    - i. Joanne on hospice at Sacred Heart – requested in person visit
    - ii. Very social - would welcome visits from others
  - d. Next month – Jeannette Doyle

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

1. A motion was made to accept recommendations from the Beneficiary Committee as distributed. SO VOTED
  - a. Clarification given on C. Alexander Rx request
2. Issues for Beneficiary Task Force – send to Clare
3. New Beneficiary Highlight
  - a. Martha Rudnik
    - i. Husband died and left her in debt
    - ii. Didn’t deal with finances – all new to her
    - iii. American Credit Counseling Services suggested filing for bankruptcy
      1. Incurred legal fees, reminder SCCLS would have been no cost sent to outreach worker
    - iv. Accepting of help
    - v. ARAW to pay car insurance

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

1. Discovered overlap in descriptions of President and Personnel Committee regarding the Executive Director’s evaluation
  - a. President is to ensure evaluation happens
  - b. Personnel Committee is to coordinate the process at discretion of President
2. A motion was made to accept the revised job description for president, as distributed. SO VOTED
3. A motion was made to accept the revised job description for Personnel Committee, as distributed. SO VOTED
4. Clare to send revised copies for board member handbooks

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

1. Clare presented FY23 RFP at committee meeting
  - a. Target areas remain the same with deepening of outreach to immigrant population
  - b. Plan is to roll out in Fall
  - c. Total grant amount offered will remain \$300,000 with a \$50,000 per grantee maximum
2. A motion was made to accept FY23 Community Partner RFP, as distributed. SO VOTED

**Report of Legacy Committee:** Chair O'Connell reported:

1. Next meeting September 22<sup>nd</sup>

**Report of Personnel Committee:** Chair McKnight reported:

1. Working on ED Evaluation

**Other Business:**

1. One space available for Last Blast event – contact Clare if interested
2. Will send flowers to Sharon for her birthday

The meeting was adjourned at 10:46 am.

Recorded by Jenny Costa, Office Administrator