

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

**Moment of Silence:** All present had a moment of silence for the beneficiaries who we lost since our last meeting: Laura Herr and Ruth Swanbeck.

**Reflective Moment:** Pam McKnight shared a quote by Maya Angelou:

*I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did,  
but people will never forget how you made them feel.*

While reflecting on the role of board members to their board buddies, Pam felt her goal was to make sure the beneficiaries know they are valued and cared about.

**President Rosemary Saber called the meeting to order at 9:38 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, Brooke, deSa, Doyle, Ellis, LaFlamme, Mayall, McKnight, Natho (Via Zoom), O'Connell, Saber.

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

**Members excused:** Beaton, Beaulieu, Stankiewicz.

The minutes of the November 11, 2021 board meeting were approved with change under governance to read "new officers/committee members" instead of "new officers/chairs". **SO VOTED**

The minutes of the November 11, 2021 executive session were approved as written. **SO VOTED**

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

1. Thank you to Cathy Mayall for all her work tracking down potential office space
2. Whaling Museum archive viewings successful
  - a. Diane wrote story about beneficiary Priscilla Taylor – to be read at January meeting
3. Jo-Ann Beaulieu on temporary leave – she is doing well
4. Olivia Melo has resigned from the board – will continue in an advisory role
  - a. Resigning for professional/personal reasons
  - b. Board Member since 2017 – thanks for hard work especially with the Personnel and Legacy Committees

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

1. FLO Newsletter
  - a. No luncheons in December – plan for Wamsutta in January: looking for hostesses
  - b. Whaling Museum program insert included
    - i. Encourage your buddies when speaking to them on the phone
    - ii. If barriers identified – let office know to see if work around can be made

2. ALBA/BA Report – no questions, comments of “excellent/amazing”
3. Thank you to all who delivered soup and to Pam and Debbie for hosting luncheon
  - a. Debbie & Pam shared positive experience
4. Resource Q&A
  - a. Thanks to Sharon and Pat
  - b. Possibility for future ones when specific topics are identified
5. Activity Sheet – no questions, comments of “always amazing”
6. Donations
  - a. Check received in memory of Laurinda Cardoza
  - b. Donation made by Kathleen McQuiggan (from our Investment Advisory Committee)
  - c. New Bedford Symphony Orchestra donated 4 tickets to the Holiday Pops for raffle
  - d. Roseanne O’Connell donated DooWop CD collection for raffle
7. Holiday cards
  - a. Will be sent out this afternoon
  - b. Any questions from beneficiaries – direct to office
  - c. New beneficiaries since list was run will receive holiday card
8. Sharon O’Malley’s PFML
  - a. Will miss her but glad she is taking time for her
  - b. Plan in place for office
  - c. Looks forward to coming back in 10 weeks
  - d. Any questions from beneficiaries: keep it vague – direct to office if more needed
9. Beneficiary Highlight – Private foundation vs. entitlement/government program
  - a. ARAW does not require documentation, relies on honesty
  - b. A few questionable circumstances have presented recently
    - i. Stashed cash, life insurance, reverse mortgage
    - ii. Do best we can with information we receive
10. Motion made to accept increase of Patricia Midurski hours from 30 to 40 and increase benefits in line with that of a fulltime position. SO VOTED

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

1. Due to the timing of month end, November financials will be included in January meeting
2. Portfolio value at end of November is \$21,321,000
3. Bank of America session with Bill Jarvis re: IPS
4. Met with Personnel Committee
5. Committee chairs have preliminary budget requests to Finance Committee by January 10<sup>th</sup>

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

1. Discussed current roles with phone visits
  - a. Emphasis should be fun friendly calls, not overwhelming chore
  - b. For less chatty friends – send note in lieu of call
2. Reports due to office by January 31<sup>st</sup>

3. FLO luncheons present opportunity to meet face to face
4. Visiting reports
  - a. Pam McKnight reported on Mary Jane Parquette
    - i. Met at FLO IHOP breakfast
    - ii. Totaled car in accident – insurance is very high
    - iii. Memory loss issues
    - iv. Presents differently than what reported by outreach worker (difference between roles)
  - b. Next month – Cathy Mayall

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

1. A motion was made to accept recommendations from the Beneficiary Committee. SO VOTED
  - a. 19 requests, 9 new – 1 denied, 2 on hold
2. New Beneficiary Highlight
  - a. Fatima Furtado
    - i. Referral from IAC
    - ii. Submitted incomplete application in early 2020
    - iii. Estranged from family
    - iv. Moved into apartment – used credit card to purchase furniture
    - v. Awarded monthly Charlie Card and \$5,000 towards credit card

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

1. Busy all year – small hiatus until 2022 - when will address By Laws

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

1. Dartmouth COA
  - a. Put on hold for 2 months (second check not sent)
  - b. Clare and Amy DiPietro met at ARAW office
    - i. Need funds for work to prove work is being done
    - ii. DCOA thinks they are doing the work – really do what they want
    - iii. Must show ARAW work not COA work is being done – biggest challenge
  - c. Tech Program Flyer sent to community partners and board members
2. FY23 RFP
  - a. Received 12 proposals – 6 new, 6 returning
  - b. List of applicants shared

**Report of Legacy Committee:** Chair Roseanne O’Connell reported:

1. Archives on thumb drive at ARAW office – will be put on Board Only site

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

1. PFML has come through for Sharon O’Malley
2. Working on budget for next year and health insurance offerings
3. Meeting moved to January

The meeting was adjourned at 10:46 am.

Executive session and holiday luncheon to follow.

Recorded by Jenny Costa, Office Administrator