

**Association for the Relief of Aged Women**  
**Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting, April 14, 2022**

**Moment of Silence:** All present had a moment of silence for the beneficiary who we lost since our last meeting: Dorothy Alfonso. Also, past board member Elizabeth Brinkerhoff.

**Reflective Moment:** Roseanne O'Connell read a brief history of ARAW written by Florence Davenport in 2008 which included an address from Rachel Howland on the occasion of the ARAW's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**President Rosemary Saber called the meeting to order at 9:40 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, deSa, Ellis, LaFlamme, Mayall, McKnight, Natho, O'Connell, Saber, Stankiewicz.

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

**Members excused:** Beaton, Brooke, Doyle.

The minutes of the March 10, 2022 board meeting were approved as written. **SO VOTED**

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

1. Attended FLO luncheon last month – women have wonderful time, encouraged board members to attend
2. Annual Meeting format and reports
  - a. Less than 5 minutes for each report
  - b. Learning opportunity on both sides: ARAW and Community Partners
3. Thank you and look back
  - a. Covid created loss of interpersonal connection
  - b. Thanks to staff and board members for efficiency in carrying out meetings on Zoom
  - c. Loss of Sharon – 14 year relationship with ARAW
  - d. Has been a full year with much accomplished
  - e. Will do written report of 2 year tenure – share highlights at Annual Meeting
  - f. Noted by Mary – Rosemary has done a remarkable job in Presidency

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

1. FLO Newsletter
  - a. Many board members expressed Sharon's remarks were beautiful
  - b. New Bedford Art Museum Field Trip
    - i. 3 signed up
    - ii. Walking concerns – limited participation
    - iii. Board members can attend- good opportunity to engage with beneficiaries
  - c. Zeiterion shows
    - i. South Pacific – very popular

- ii. Young at Heart – additional programming in May
- 2. BA Report: asked if helpful - board members learn, full of fun facts, continue!
- 3. Activity Sheet: outstanding, board members impressed by amount of work
- 4. Office reconfiguration
  - a. Making current space work until new space found
  - b. Conference room area for committee meetings now open
- 5. Thank you to Rosemary, Mary and Cathy for hosting March Wamsutta luncheon
- 6. Volunteer opportunities
  - a. Wamsutta luncheon April 22<sup>nd</sup> – looking for hostesses
  - b. Delivery of raffle items in April
- 7. Policy statements & CORI
  - a. Signed and return policy statements annually
  - b. CORI check every 3 years (Best practice)
  - c. Current bylaws state \$1 dues
- 8. Visiting reports – let office know if you would like to add beneficiaries to or remove from your list
- 9. CPG updates
  - a. Coastal Neighbors Network (CNN)
    - i. Clare gave presentation to 20 members about ARAW and its history
    - ii. CNN has evolved and grown over time – organization for everybody regardless of financial
    - iii. CNN working on press release and flyer for FLO newsletter
  - b. New Bedford Art Museum (NBAM)
    - i. Field trip this Friday
    - ii. Art kit deliveries going strong
      - 1. 30 participants
      - 2. Positive feedback about kits and Devin who is doing deliveries
  - c. New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center
    - i. Clare had meeting with coordinator
  - d. New Bedford Police Department
    - i. Clare has had 3 meetings
    - ii. New to grants
    - iii. Working on checklist to create consistency in visits
    - iv. Training with officers in May – educate what ARAW does
    - v. Do not want to be duplicative with ARAW or other community programs work
  - e. New Bedford Symphony Orchestra
    - i. Clare meeting tomorrow with executive director and program coordinator
    - ii. Will play music at May Wamsutta luncheon – featured in FLO newsletter
  - f. YWCA
    - i. ARAW was featured in Widows' Program newsletter
  - g. Dartmouth Council on Aging
    - i. Ongoing issues

- ii. Partnership ending at end of May
- iii. Any questions/comments in the community – refer to office
- h. Fairhaven Council on Aging
  - i. Parted on good terms
  - ii. Letter sent to Lucille and Carolyn – thank you for dedication over the years
  - iii. Beneficiaries are understanding transition – calls coming to ARAW office
- i. Sangha Yoga Studio
  - i. Located in Olympia Tower
  - ii. Clare met with Nanci and Jeff (owner)
  - iii. Will be pursuing CPG next year
  - iv. Opportunity for Chair Yoga will be featured in FLO newsletter
- j. Thank you to Sharon
  - i. Missing her already
  - ii. Learned so much from her over the past few years
  - iii. Cards sent to office will be given to her
- k. Welcome Leonora
  - i. Jumped right in
  - ii. Working Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri 9-2

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

1. Motion made to accept March finance report, with changes to over/under colors. SO VOTED
2. Portfolio did fantastic last year
3. Finance Committee meeting with Bank of America (BOA) & Investment Advisory Comm (IAC) 4/12/22
  - a. Introduction of Sarah Clark (BOA)
  - b. IAC will review IPS and BOA recommendations in May
  - c. Kathleen offered to meet with Finance Committee to explain

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

1. Will be meeting in May to discuss how things are going and plan for moving forward
2. Visiting reports: Shannon Bachman
  - a. Lillian Pacheco
    - i. Healthy and well
    - ii. Loves the Red Sox
    - iii. Talks about grandbaby in Florida
  - b. Susan Perry
    - i. Has MS, ARAW gave lift chair
    - ii. Making move to handicap unit – she’s excited
    - iii. Always in a great mood in spite of her obstacles
  - c. Lucille Fredette
    - i. Visits daughter with special needs every Tuesday with son
      1. Highlight of Lucille’s week

- ii. Son cooks for her
- d. Next month – Jane Stankiewicz
- e. Roseanne volunteered for June

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

1. A motion was made to accept recommendations from the Beneficiary Committee. SO VOTED
  - a. 29 requests, 10 new
2. New Beneficiary Highlight – Patricia Rose
  - a. Very active – took up geocaching
  - b. Friends lost zeal for life – looking for more active friends
  - c. Hearing difficulties – was wearing friend’s hearing aids
  - d. ARAW awarded gift of hearing aids
3. Sandy Fogg Award
  - a. Started in honor of board member Sandy Fogg’s 35 years of service
  - b. Given for needs beyond a normal request
  - c. Kathleen Jennings is this year’s recipient
    - i. Cancer diagnosis in 2018
    - ii. Lives in old house in north end of New Bedford – house being sold
    - iii. Neighbors who help but also take advantage
    - iv. No family or support
    - v. Old landlord reached out to new owner to ensure she’s taken care of for 1 year
    - vi. Award is to help with moving costs
    - vii. Previously was not open to help but is now accepting – success story

**Report of Governance Committee:** Mary Ellis reported for Chair Debbie Brooke:

1. Reminder to read reports and come prepared with questions
2. Potential board member candidate Susan Perry – mutually agreed was not right fit, looking for systemic/policy work rather than individual
3. Potential board member – Leah Macomber
  - a. Involved in community (Husband part of Coast Neighbors’ Network)
  - b. Background in fundraising for Rhode Island hospitals/Foundation
  - c. One week to bring concerns to Debbie or office

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

1. Viewed ARAW archives (restricted from public viewing) documents held at NBWM
2. Discovered that discarding of some documents and notebooks occurred in the 1970’s
3. Anticipate viewing ARAW stored documents for retention or discard purposes

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

1. Meeting tomorrow – will discuss:
  - a. Covid vaccination policy
  - b. Bereavement policy
  - c. Juneteenth

**Other Business:**

1. Wamsutta luncheon following board meeting – opportunity for socialization with fellow board members, pay on your own

The meeting was adjourned at 11:24 am.

Recorded by Jenny Costa, Office Administrator