

**Association for the Relief of Aged Women**  
**Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting, January 12, 2022**

**President Jane Stankiewicz called the meeting to order at 9:31 AM.**

**Members in Attendance:** Beaton (Via Zoom), Brooke (Via Zoom), deSa, Ellis, Laflamme, Macomber, Mayall, McKnight, Natho, O’Connell, Saber, Stankiewicz.

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

**Members excused:** Beaulieu.

**Moment of Silence:** All present had a moment of silence for the beneficiaries who we lost since our last meeting:

1. Maria Amaral (80) New Bedford
  - a. Inactive at time of death
  - b. Referral from NBPD – withdrawn due to hospitalization
2. Bebe Oliveira (88) New Bedford (formerly)
  - a. Moved to Sippican LTC in March 2022
  - b. ARAW paid for cable, phone and rep payee
  - c. Very involved nephew

**Reflective Moment:** Debbie Brooke shared some words from Margaret Meade:

*“One day a student asked anthropologist Margaret Meade for the earliest sign of civilization in any given human culture. He expected the answer to be a clay pot, or perhaps a fish hook or a grinding stone. Her answer surprised him. She said she believed the earliest sign of civilization was “a healed femur”. The femur is, of course, the thigh bone. In a society based on hunting and gathering, a person with a fractured thigh bone would be unable to care for themselves and useless. Meade explained that no healed femurs are found where the law of the jungle, the survival of the fittest, reigns. Someone with a broken femur would simply be allowed to die. But a healed femur showed that someone cared. Someone had to hunt and gather food for the injured person until his leg healed. Someone had to provide care for the person who couldn’t care for himself. She said, “the evidence of compassion was the first sign of true civilization.”*

**Report of President:** President Jane Stankiewicz reported:

1. The minutes of the December 8, 2022 board meeting were approved as distributed.  
SO VOTED
2. Happy birthday to Clare!
3. Thanks to Debbie for hosting holiday get together
4. Jeannette Doyle
  - a. Sent resignation letter
  - b. Served on board for 9 years
  - c. Will send letter to Jeannette from board along with plant
5. Strategic Plan update
  - a. Timeline has been updated – Retreat planned March 30<sup>th</sup>
  - b. Beneficiary discussion - goal to meet growing need in the area

- c. Visiting discussion – important to organization, review model/intention
- d. Next meeting 1/23 – review visiting, move on to grants

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

1. FLO Newsletter
  - a. SNAP pandemic benefits ending March 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - b. Reminder to request support before services take place
  - c. FLO luncheon January 19<sup>th</sup> – looking for hostesses
2. Activity sheet & BA Reports: no questions
3. Community Engagement
  - a. Clare and Diane to present at Mattapoissett Woman's Club 1/19/23
4. CPG updates
  - a. Community Partner meeting
    - i. Opportunity for partners to connect/network
    - ii. Reviewed reporting/RFP process
    - iii. YWCA and LGBTQ+ Network unable to attend
5. Contributions – donation given by Kathleen McQuiggan (\$500)
6. Beneficiary Highlight: Friendship
  - a. Many holiday cards received – not typical to send card to organizations
  - b. ARAW has taken on its own personality
  - c. Beneficiaries feel connection through FLO Newsletter/BAs/BM buddies
  - d. Read quotes from two beneficiaries, Lorene Almeida & Nancy Deatherage, which represented friendship from ARAW

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

1. Investment value YE 2022 \$18,581,000 (started 2022 at \$21,400,000)
2. January 19 – Meeting with Bank of America and Investment Advisory Committee to review first 3 quarters and hear BOA recommendations going forward
3. January 24 – Bank of America providing one hour Zoom meeting for clients on outlook for new year
4. Thanks to chairs for providing budget numbers
5. Mary, Cathy (assistant chair) and Clare to meet for initial budget discussion
6. Motion made to approve November 2022 financials, as distributed. SO VOTED
7. Motion made to approve December 2022 financials, as distributed. SO VOTED
  - a. Deficits smoothed out when comparing November to December

**Report of Visiting Committee:**

1. Visiting reports due by January 31<sup>st</sup>
2. Visiting reports: Gloria deSa
  - a. Muriel Godinet
    - i. Not much contact with family
    - ii. Content despite health issues

- iii. Painter – since apartment small - giving away paintings/materials – has brought joy to pass on
  - iv. Finding meaning in life despite so many losses (health, hobby, family)
3. Next month – Cathy Mayall, Diane Laflamme

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

1. A motion was made to accept recommendations from the Beneficiary Committee as distributed. SO VOTED
  - a. 15 requests (4 new), 10 updates (5 inactive)
2. New Beneficiary Highlight
  - a. Sandra Westgate (79 y/o)
    - i. Reached rock bottom
    - ii. Second floor market rate apartment – feels safe & nowhere to go
    - iii. Negative month end balance
    - iv. SHINE – now has Aetna insurance
    - v. ARAW to pay cable (applying to ACP)
  - b. Gloria Van Bibber (79 y/o)
    - i. Retired bookkeeper
    - ii. Declining health
    - iii. Connected to resources through Coastline & friend
    - iv. Major dental work needed

**Report of Governance Committee:** No report

**Report of Grants Committee:** Chair Rosemary Saber reported:

1. Quarterly reports due next week January 17
2. Applications for FY24 due February 1<sup>st</sup>
3. Next committee meeting February 10

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

1. Next committee meeting January 26

**Report of Personnel Committee:** To be discussed in executive session

**Other Business:**

1. ARAW parking spaces
  - a. 4 designated spots (only 2 as part of lease)
  - b. Staff will not use on days of big meetings so board members may use

The meeting was adjourned at 11:39 am.

Executive session to follow.

Recorded by,  
Jenny Costa, Office Administrator

Approved by,  
Gale Beaton, Clerk