

## **Minutes of Board meeting of January 12, 2010**

Board Members Present, Bill Cobham, President; Mollie Gadarowski; Vice President, Patricia Burgess, Mary Ann Dalton; Lisa Hartnett; Carmela Schipani,

Staff Present: Eileen Ginnetty, Vincent McCarty, Susan Pacheco and Emma Watkins.

Minutes from October 2009 meeting were accepted as written.

(There was no November 2009 meeting as it was cancelled a few days prior so COA could host a Flu Clinic. There was a small group of Board members who were able to attend the December 2009 meeting – Mary Ann, Lisa and Carmella) so these Board members and staff informally discussed items, including budget issues, waiting list for Homecare services and LGBT outreach. There was not a formal December meeting.)

**COA Executive Director's Report;** Eileen introduced two issues where our partner agencies are being impacted. First, is the Windsor House Adult Day Health Program. They have experienced Medicaid budget cuts and for many of their participants the daily reimbursement rate has gone from \$57/day to \$27/day. Windsor House at 806 Mass . Ave. recently laid off a nurse and also their Social Worker Mary Costello is being transferred to their site at Sancta Maria.

Also, CASCAP is still trying to recoup their loss for the Bay Queen trip which never happened. They we told they will get a free trip (for 2 busses) this summer but they have not received anything in writing yet and cannot reach contact people.

The SCES annual Senior Fair is scheduled for April 20<sup>th</sup>.

Eileen spoke about an LGBT outreach event for seniors scheduled for Monday Feb 22 at the North Cambridge Senior Center.

**North Cambridge Senior Center:** Vincent updated the Board on the “Cambridge Memories” group that is presented monthly at the Center by Sarah Boyer from the Cambridge Historical Commission.

Starting in February, Vincent will be offering a care-giver support group on Mondays at 6:00 p.m. at the NCSC.

**Client Services:** Susan noted that, with the Citywide Center closing on 3:00 p.m. on Friday afternoons -- a schedule change just started at the beginning of this month-- Alicia Johnson, the COA's Information and Referral Specialist, is now at the North Cambridge Senior Center Friday afternoons. This on-site Social Service will hopefully be very convenient for seniors in the North Cambridge area.

Susan, Liz Seelman, COA Case Manager, and Alicia are embarking upon a new outreach schedule. They are developing a new pamphlet of social services and scheduling meetings at senior housing buildings and other agencies.

Susan has been attending meetings for the Census 2010 complete count committee.

**Citywide Senior Center:** Emma noted that the upcoming January party at 806 is a “Fifties” theme party.

The Astronomy lectures continue to be very popular and draw a good size audience, including many men.

Effective this month, the Monday evening Spanish Class will switch its meeting to Saturday mornings until the change of season. Some of the students have expressed a fear of being in this area in the evening.

**Old Business:** Vincent spoke again of the video “Young at Heart.’ He suggested people try to view it.

**New Business:** Bill expressed concern that people are spending long times on the courtesy phone in the 806 lobby. Also, he gave high accolades to the interim senior shuttle driver, Merv Thomas.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Ginnetty  
Council on Aging Director