

Minutes of Board Meeting of December 13, 2011

Board Members Present: William Cobham, President, Patricia Burgess, Mary Ann Dalton, Maureen Harty, and Carmela Schipani.

Staff Present: Eileen Ginnetty, Patricia Johnson, Vincent McCarthy Susan Pacheco, and Emma Watkins.

Minutes from November 15 were accepted.

Officer Daniel Burroso, Cambridge Police Department, Community Relations Unit and Officer Matt Mahoney attended our December meeting.

COA Executive Director's Report; Eileen reported that some of this board's membership statuses will expire soon, and Susan Pacheco has contacted the city Public Information Department to solicit outside membership. Eileen will keep the board updated.

A draft list of recommendations for next steps of the Silver Ribbon Commission was distributed. Eileen commented that Vice Mayor, Henrietta Davis chairs this commission.

Client Services; Susan acknowledged that this years' Medicare Open Enrollment went exceptionally smooth thanks to all the help from her staff, especially Alicia Johnson, SHINE Councilor.

A recent program, "Talk with Dolores" prompted staff that perhaps more discussions of senior isolation and suicide may give seniors a chance to speak out about a subject that in the past was not well received.

Citywide Senior Center: representatives from MBTA recently came to the center to discuss senior MBTA concerns, especially the bus shelter at the Erie Street Housing. The City has taken the responsibility of providing this shelter. Other issues were also discussed, and a written resolution will follow from Councilor Denise Simmons' office.

Emma and Eve Flochild, Computer Instructor, recently attended a city focus group regarding computers in the city. The discussion was around number of computers in the city, where they were located, number of users, and coverage and operational policies. At this time, Emma commented that children in high school who are income eligible could obtain Internet Essentials a special coverage from Comcast for \$9.95/month.

The center's December Holiday Party will be held Thursday, December 15 with Jimmy Caserta as entertainment.

On January 10 we will present a Martin Luther King Celebration viewing, via video, the dedication of the Martin Luther King Memorial in Washington D.C. On Monday January 16, 2012 a citywide MLK celebration will be held in the center's ballroom for all to attend.

North Cambridge Senior Center: Vincent reported that their trolley tour was a success, and all seniors who took the tour enjoyed seeing the city's art followed by a box lunch.

North Cambridge annual holiday bazaar was a success.

A trip to the Museum of Science, funded by the Charles River Association, was enjoyed by all.

A brief discussion was made regarding an upcoming meeting that Emma and Vincent will attend regarding Cambridge biking. If anyone has biking concerns, please let either know to address at this meeting. Biking is here to stay in Cambridge.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Johnson