

Minutes of COA Board Meeting January 8, 2019

Board Members Present: Daniel Buroso, Lois Carra, Jennifer Chisholm, Eva Paddock, Mary Ann Dalton, JoAnn Haas, Pearl Hines, Lily Owyang, Beverly Sealey and Edna Stamp

Absent:

Staff Present: Lisa Castagna, Alicia Johnson, Vincent McCarthy and Emma Watkins

Call to Order – President Owyang called meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

Executive Director – Susan Pacheco

- ED was absent. No report.

Citywide Senior Center – Emma Watkins

- We have added a 2nd strength training class to our lineup Mondays and Wednesdays
- We are also happy to announce that once again we are collaborating with the Dance Complex by offering The Art of Dance on Fridays (the program will cover flamenco, ball room dancing, African dance). Once a month the class will go to the Dance Complex for their class as well as to see a production of one of the dance complex performances.
- We are looking forward to today's Lunch and Learn program. Building bridges with guests: Lisa Krinsky and Bob Linscott, of the LGBT Aging Project.
- January 10 – the speaker for our MLK Program is Tito Jackson – former politician but has been a voice for social justice for disenfranchised people for many years.
- Friday, January 11 Laurie Rothstein, Director of the Cambridge Volunteer Clearinghouse will be here to discuss volunteer opportunities.
- January 24 Theme Party – Winter Ball Party – with entertainment by DJ Vincent Caserto.
- January 31 Dick Flavin, an Emmy Award Winning broadcaster and is known as the poet laureate and senior ambassador of the Boston Red Sox and voice of Fenway Park. He will be here to talk about his time with the Boston Red Sox.
- We are also booking speakers for our Lunch and Learn series. Our goal is to identify speakers for the rest of the year so that we can properly promote. One such person is DHSP IT's Eta Tsegaye who has just returned from Ethiopia.

North Cambridge Senior Center (NCSC) - Alicia Johnson

- The NCSC is preparing for our move back to 2050 Mass Ave in March. A firm date hasn't been set yet, but, communication with participants is ongoing.
- Staff plans to utilize the space at 2050 differently to accommodate our growth and increase in programs. The dining room area will serve a dual function for programming and meals.
- NCSC will have an open house welcoming back participants to our updated space at 2050 Mass Ave.
- NCSC is working on adding an additional enrichment program on Wednesday afternoons. Drawing with Pastels will be added upon our return to 2050 Mass Ave.
- A date has not been scheduled for a walk-through of 2050.

Client Services – Vincent McCarthy

- Healing & Feeling – Support through Loss. First meeting was December 12 and a great success – 6 participants (will meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month).
- Men's Group Breakfast in January was very successful. We had 18 participants. Thank you to Julie King, Food Service Manager and her staff for preparing the breakfast.

- Other upcoming activities: On January 15 The Men's Group will be putting together Gift Bags for the for the upcoming January 30-31 overnight count of persons unsheltered in Cambridge and Somerville. Vincent will be participating on January 30-31. Homeless Outreach officers also participate. Film & Discussion – Selma January 22 Meditation & Mandala – January 25

Old Business

New Business

- The board would like a police presentation on scams. Emma noted the Laura Nichols from Consumers' Council spoke at the last town meeting January 3.
- Daniel Buroso is part of the Family Social Justice unit now and recommends calling Police if unsure of a situation.
- JoAnn Haas reminded everyone of a meeting at Peabody School on January 10 about the Danehy Park attack.
- Jennifer Chisholm likes the COA as well as the Cambridge Police Facebook Page.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 @ 9:30 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa Castagna and Susan Pacheco.