

Minutes of COA Board Meeting of December 8, 2015

Board Members Present: Ethel Ampey, Lois Carra, Pearl Hines, Benjamin Horner, Lily Owyang, and Jeanne Ryde

Absent: Daniel Buroso

Staff Present: Alicia Johnson, Vincent McCarthy, Susan Pacheco and Emma Watkins
November meeting minutes were approved.

COA Executive Director – Susan Pacheco

- Facility updates: replacement of roof is needed. It is a capital expenditure request. The cost will be approximately \$250K. The building has 2 roofs: the addition which is the extension (roof deck and ballroom) and then the other part of the building (above 3rd floor). Area painting has been occurring throughout the building.
- ED, along with staff from Transition House, and Protective Service staff from Somerville Cambridge Elder Services will be doing a 13 week in-service to Cambridge Police Dept. on recognizing elder abuse/ signs and symptoms beginning on January 5, 2016 thru April 5, 2016. Board member Office Buroso will also join this group.
- ED has been appointed by City Manager to Taxi Working Group. This group is meeting to make recommendations to the City Manager and City Council regarding the current state of the taxi industry in Cambridge. Recommendations need to focus on co-existence between cabs and rideshare vehicles, such as Uber.

Client Services – Vincent McCarthy

- **Open Enrollment**

Thursday, November 5th Open Enrollment Informational session was very successful and we had 30 participants in attendance. We will also have a SHINE open house event on Thursday, November 12th from 1pm – 3pm. There will be 4 SHINE counselors available to assist participants.

SHINE – OPEN HOUSE – big success. We had four counselors who saw a total of 44 seniors.

- **Men's Group**

- November – Drum Circles – great success.
- Reindeer Games – action adventure/ w. Ben Affleck set during the holidays.
- 12/22 – Welcome Winter 10am – Breakfast buffet, one participant will DJ,

Dress to impress, we will also invite city employees that have collaborated with or hope to collaborate with in the future.... Michael Muehe, CCPD, Bobby Goodwin & Paul Ryder, Rec Dept., Albert Pless, CHA Men's Health League, Patrick Williams, Consumer Council, Officer Burroso....

- **Movie and Panel Discussion**

We will show the film Cocoon (Wilfred Brimley, Jessica Tandy) and then have a discussion facilitated by Kathy Hoey, LICSW Program Manager Geriatric Services.

We hope to do similar events with Kathy Hoey on an ongoing basis in the future.

- **Outreach** – Will be presenting to the North Cambridge Stabilization Committee.

Citywide Senior Center – Emma Watkins

- We started December with an amazing Pre-Kwanzaa Celebration. The program was well attended and left the audience wanting more.
- This month we will focus on celebrations – On Wednesday, December 9 the Chinese Evergreen chorus will have its Holiday Concert 10:00 – 12:30. Thursday, December 10 we will celebrate “A Taste of the Holiday Season” where staff and seniors are invited to share a story of a special holiday or bring in food that is special to them.
- December 17 – we will have our Holiday Party with entertainment by the Gordon Bowman Band. This event is almost sold out.
- December 9 1:30-3:00 we will have a presentation and discussion of the first Cambridge LGBTQ residents to get married at Cambridge City Hall.
- December 22 1:00-2:00 we will have a return of the Program “Mysteries of the Cosmos Topic: Knowledge from Shadows.”

North Cambridge Senior Center (NCSC) - Alicia Johnson

- Safety Awareness, Thursday, 12/3 12 noon – 1:00
- Participatory Budget Voting on Monday, 12/7 @ 12 noon
- Lunch Walk to Andy's Diner on Thursday, 12/10 @ 11:30
- Holiday party on Tuesday, 12/15 @ 12 noon
- WOW Resumes on Wednesday, January 6, 2016 with new volunteer facilitator Suzi Wojdowski.

Old Business

- There have been an absence of new Board member assignments due to the City Council elections.

New Business

- Director Ampey requested that COA Board meetings be listed in the *Newslines* calendar.

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 am

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 @ 9:30 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Susan Pacheco.