

**BROCKTON COUNCIL ON AGING  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2012**

The monthly meeting of the Brockton Council on Aging Board of Directors was held on Monday, December 3, 2012. The meeting was called to order by Chair Lorraine Lalli at 10 a.m.

Minutes were recorded by Dorothy Lufkin in the absence of Alice Farnsworth, Recorder for the Board of Directors.

Roll call: All Board members were present.

Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the meeting held on November 5, 2012, were accepted as written.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Pat Brindley read the Howard Fund report. Balance of the Howard Fund as of November 31, 2012, was \$71,162.50. The report was filed as read with a correction on the date.

Correspondence: None

Report of the Director: Janice expressed what a wonderful job the decorating committee and Michele did with the Holiday decorations. A big thank-you to Phyllis Hancock, who was there every day for the week, getting the windows drawn out and assisting the painters. She was very grateful when informed by the artists that they were donating the project and not seeking any reimbursements.

The City Auditor has received the first half of our Formula Grant funds and Janice will shortly be going before City Council to accept the funds. She will ask Lorraine to call Board members with the date, when received, so all can join her.

She issued the reminder that she is doing applications for food and fuel assistance, but if they are under 60 or live outside of Brockton, they should contact Self Help or the COA in their area.

She will share next month information learned about services provided by the BAMSI Helpline.

Shine volunteers have been wonderful, but she questions why so many people wait until the last minute to make a Shine appointment and hopes they will learn not to next year.

The refund for the Halloween party will be Thursday, December 6 and December 13 from 9-12.

She anticipates a lot of new people will be attending our Holiday party this year.

She expressed her need for help and support, as she is joining the OCES dance team in their fundraising event "Dancing with the Angels" to be held on Saturday, February 2, at Indian Pond.

Hoping she will have a cheering squad.

She closed her report appreciating support received. She still loves her job and wishes everyone "Happy Holidays".

Report of Activities Coordinator: Michelle reported on upcoming activities and events.

The Holiday party at Shaw's Center at 12 p.m. on December 11<sup>th</sup> is still open for sign-ups.

Wednesday, December 12, the Meet & Greet will feature Elizabeth Wolf from the Library at 9 a.m. and at 1p.m. Signature Health Care will have "Healthy Eating for the Holidays."

Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. the Davis School Chorus will again perform as last year. They did a fabulous job and she is hoping we will have a much better attendance. She is putting out a sign-up sheet. The trips December 6<sup>th</sup>, "A DooWop Christmas", and the December 19<sup>h</sup> Holiday Celebration in Newport are full. Upcoming events will feature the Mr. D. J. Trivia Game Show on January 9<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m. It will resemble the shows "The Price is Right" and "Jeopardy". Baypointe Veggie Soup will be January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1 p.m. Soup is the food of the month.

Unfinished business: None

New Business: Lorraine spoke about the training session attended by herself, Dorothy Lufkin, and Al Amoroso, at the Duxbury COA in November. Emmett Schmarson, Executive Office of Elder Affairs, spoke on many subjects, especially the duties of Board members, rules and regulations, services offered, an overview of Massachusetts aging and elder abuse. He spoke of how very important volunteers are to a COA. He recommended that a log be maintained at the desk detailing services and making note of requested services not yet met. Emmett is a very influential speaker and able to inject humor into his talks.

Lorraine thought the Veterans breakfast was great.

She also suggested the Friends' cookbook as a great Christmas gift.

Unfortunately, Alice Farnsworth wasn't present to hear a very funny article she was sure would be appreciated, especially by her.

Dan Clague expressed his displeasure that Lorraine had not raised the question as to who should decide whether flowers would be sent on the occasion of a death or illness. He did not believe that

the decision should rest with one person. He made a motion to form a committee of 2 members from the Board of Directors and 2 members from the Friends' Board. Irene seconded the motion. Lorraine said that, because the Board of Directors did not have any funds, she had planned on bringing the subject before the Friends' Board. She stated that the Friends' Board is an autonomous unit and has sole discretion on how, when and why their funds are used and that the Board of Directors does not have control of any of these funds. She pointed out that this was even a topic of discussion at the training session. Dan argued that the Friends' money belonged to everyone by virtue of their annual \$10 membership donation. Vincent Ricci, Treasurer for the Friends' Board, who was present in the audience, interjected. He claimed Dan was out of order and that the Board of Directors has no say in the matter; that it is at the sole discretion of the Friends' Board and they would make the decision.

Pat Brindley raised the point that she believed this subject had come up before, under Dot Varano as Treasurer. She thought that they had decided to make guidelines. However, there doesn't seem to be any record or any policy set regarding this matter. There was further discussion concerning funds. Al Amoroso made a motion that we table any motions until further investigation can be made. The motion was seconded and approved.

There being no further business or objection, the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be January 7, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dorothy Lufkin, Interim Recorder