

COMBINED MEETING OF COA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' AND FRIENDS OF THE COA BOARD JANUARY 9, 2023 MINUTES

Present: J. Fuller-Jones, D. Andrews, C. DeLorey, C. Reichenberg, D. Clague, I. Clague, R. Graham, M. James, H. Soones, L. Green, P. Beckner, M. Young, F. Zakszewski, L. Dykes, M. Howard, D. Langer, S. Larke, H. O'Connor

Absent: K. Landers

Minutes of December 5, 2022 – approved

Director's Report: Christina and baby are doing well; combined meeting and future combined meetings due to reconstruction of COA; introduction of Chelsea who is an intern from Bridgewater; meet and greet will be Jan 30th with John O'Donnell; U Mass Needs Assessment Survey post cards will be mailed this week to 5,000 residents, but all seniors in the city are invited to complete the survey, all members are encouraged to wear their pin and to take extra surveys to share with others in their organizations, churches, etc; all local colleges are going to assist the COA with lifelong learning programs; new committees such as community ideas, obtaining grants as the Howard Fund is taking a hiatus this year, marketing and community outreach will be created; staff has training every Thursday from 9-10 to discuss programs, activities and events; the COA would like to have a Costco and Amazon account; the FY24 budget is due soon and Janice is requesting two (2) new positions due to an expected 30% increase in participants after reconstruction; the COA will be moving to the Shaws's Center during construction but a date has not been determined

Michelle's Report: COA is closed Jan 16th due to holiday; Friday Jan 27th, 930-1030 is the Pet Pantry at the COA for anyone needing help feeding their pets, also check the back of the COA newsletter for additional dates; Tues Jan 31st at 1:00 is Hoarding 101 and is open to anyone, Friends Store is open and having a sale, there will be a mock trial with DA Cruz in Feb 2023

Lauren's Report: tax work off has started; OCES has special funds to help with prescription deductibles

Next meeting will be February 6, 2023