

Council on Aging

Advisory Board Meeting

March 6, 2003 - **Minutes**

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Member's Present:

Clementina Ponte, Chair
Stanley Ociesa, Vice Chair
Rita L'Etoile, Secretary
Dolores Gomes
Margaret Collard
Howard Prescott

Guest

George Smith, President
Board of Directors ,Coastline Elderly Services, Inc.

Member's Absent:

Paul Walsh
Marilyn Poulos
Frank Monteiro

Member's Excused

George Smith, President of the Board of Directors for Coastline Elderly Services, was a guest at the Council On Aging Advisory Board meeting on Thursday, March 06th. Mr. Smith outlined Coastline's strategy to the Board Members for use of the COA offices should a disaster prevent Coastline from running their programs from their building. Mr. Smith expressed that the set up would be for approximately 20-25 employees and that this would be a temporary situation. Should Coastline use the COA for a long period of time Coastline would pay the City of New Bedford temporary housing for rental of office space.

Meeting Called to Order:

Chairman Ponte called to order the meeting of March 06, 2003 at 9:15 a.m. and confirmed the presence of a quorum.

Acceptance of Minutes:

Motion was made by Vice President Stanley Ociesa to accept the minutes of the February 6, 2003 meeting as written. The Motion was seconded by Howard Prescott. **Motion carried.**

NEW BEDFORD COUNCIL ON AGING ADVISORY BOARD

Director's Report:

Dorothy Koczera, Executive Director, submitted her monthly report and discussion followed regarding Budget cuts, 3.6% cut before June 30th, Van Drivers' cell phones were cut as of February 28th. Director discussed office supplies for the COA offices \$1,200 and Art Therapy's Budget for supplies is \$1,500. Director discussed the Mass. Senior Action Council trip to Boston. Director discussed the injury to our custodian's foot which will keep him from work for 3 weeks. Vice President, Stanley Ocieska suggested that a letter be sent to Stephen Furtado, Mayor's Office and invite him to the COA's next meeting to discuss the Art Therapy Budget. Director discussed the Community Services Volunteer that we have at the Center, 20 hours a week and another to be interviewed.

Coastline Elderly Services, Inc. Report:

Vice President, Stanley Ocieska discussed the 5 year plan Coastline has implemented.

New Business:

1. Director, Dorothy Koczera informed the Board that Assistant Director, Ronald Ouellet had been cut from the budget.
2. Director, Dorothy Koczera discussed with the Board the "Vintage Fashion Show" for Older Americans Month at the Main Library, on May 16th, coordinated by Elaine Coelho, Sr. Center Coordinator. Ms. Coelho has raised \$500 for the event-Director concerned if this is the right time for the event. Ms. Coelho came to the meeting and explained the Fashion Show. The Board voted for Ms. Coelho to continue with the Show just as long as no admission fees were imposed.

Unfinished Business:

Board Member Howard Prescott discussed with the Board the Brooklawn Park Pond situation and he informed the board that there is nothing the Mayor's office can do about the Pond until it thaws out. Mrs. Koczera said she spoke with the Coordinator at Brooklawn Senior Center and was informed that the children do iceskate at the pond.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Rita L'Etoile and seconded by Margaret Collard. All voted in favor. Motion carried. The meeting was Adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

. Respectfully submitted,

Rita L'Etoile Recording Secretary

NEW BEDFORD COUNCIL ON AGING ADVISORY BOARD