

## **ECOA Board Meeting Minutes**

**June 23, 2023**

**8:30 am**

**Present:** Rosemary Cunningham (RC), Marvene O'Rourke (MO), Jay Sigler (JS), Nancy Ignacio (NI), John Dropick (JD), Janice Belisle (JB), Administrator Lyndsay Famariss (LF)

The meeting was called to order by Board Co-Chair Marvene O'Rourke at 8:45 am.

### **Approval of the minutes:**

The minutes were unanimously approved.

**Budget:** Lyndsay reported that with rising utility costs and costly fire alarm replacement, the budget will be down to the wire. However, she had requested increases for line items for next year and that budget was accepted.

**Administrators Report:** Lyndsay and the staff are at the end of their rope with the ongoing construction issues with Kelley House. A question was raised as to whether the Anchors should shut down for two weeks, thinking of the safety of participants and staff. Rosemary excused herself to contact James Haggerty concerning this question and to let him know that the Board is incensed about the lack of cooperation from Kelley House and the construction crews. The Anchors would really like the assistance of the Town to help control this situation. JH believes that the Select Board cannot help because this is occurring on private property. He would like to facilitate a strong re-opening of the line of communication between the Anchors and the construction crews. The Board of the ECOA feels that although the Town's hands may be tied legally, that the Town should ethically be able to approach the Kelley House management / construction company in order to improve their relationship with the surrounding community.

**Five Year Committee Report:** Marvene reported that there was a meeting with the Friends of the COA on June 24, which was very cordial and positive. The Friends and the Board meeting every 2 months was discussed. There will not be a Five-year committee meeting until September, as the Town would like us to slow things down a bit.

**Director of Senior Services Report:** Meris reported that the groups are growing with seasonal participants returning. Of course parking continues to be problematic. The

Volunteer event went very well. The Anchors will have a table at the Truth And Joy event in Oak Bluffs on Saturday, July 22. She encouraged anyone who would like to participate to come and join them at the table.

**Outreach Report:** Victoria reported that Bill Glaser has continued to do great work and it looks like funding for his position will last through October. The Friends have been very helpful in supporting Outreach with fuel aid. There will be an opportunity for assistance with water bills from South Shore.

**Friends of ECOA Report:**

Janice reported that the Board and the Friends of the Anchors had a very successful meeting and the volunteer lunch at the Anchors was very nice.

**New Business:** There was no new business.

Lyndsay personally wished to thank Jay for his dedication and service to the Anchors and express how fortunate she felt being able to work with him. Rosemary said she (RC) has worked with Jay on the Board since 2017, thanking him for all his help to her and to remark on his constancy and selfless dedication to the people of the Anchors. He will be greatly missed by the Board and personnel of the Anchors.

RC adjourned the meeting at 9:45 am.

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 15, 2023 at 8:30 am.