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**FEAWM
Board Meeting
March 25, 2009
VAMC Director's Suite Conference Room
Leeds, MA 01053**

Present: Mary Dowling, VAMC; Jeff Anliker; Laura Szwajkowski, VAMC; Mary Rodowicz, VAMC; David Mendoza, Barnes, ANG; Patrick DeFalco, SSA; Johnny Bowen, LCDR, Springfield Military Entrance Processing Station; Joe McDanel, WARB

1. Minutes:

The minutes of February 25, 2009, Board Meeting, were approved as written.

2. Treasurers Report:

Balance in the account as of March 23, 2009 was \$7,744.21. The treasurer's report was accepted as written.

3. By-laws: Deferred until the May, 2009 meeting.

4. Committee Updates:

Activities: The annual picnic will be held on June 27, 2009 at Nonotuck Park in Easthampton. David to reserve that date with the Park.

Awards:

- The nomination packets for the annual awards banquet will be sent out in April.
- The Chairperson position for this committee is vacant. Jeff spoke to a representative from Fish & Wildlife for possibly filling this position within that agency. The meeting went well but a response from Fish & Wildlife has not been received.
- The committee discussed candidates for a speaker at the awards banquet. Mary Dowling called Northwestern District Attorney, Elizabeth D. Scheibel to see if she would be available, call has not been returned as of this meeting.
- Mary Rodowicz sent a message to Congressmen Olver and Neal's offices with the date of the Banquet, as a "heads up".

Education: Reviewing options for a retirement, estate planning or financial planning seminars.

Federal Relations: No update.

Pay and Benefits: A proposal will be put together in the spring in preparation for the Albany/Berkshire county locality pay.

Website/Public Relations: The next meeting will be held on April 15, 2009. The committee is in the process of updating the website.

5. Other:

- Patrick informed the committee that an intern at the Social Security Administration would be available to assume the secretarial duties for the FEAWM as it has become too time-consuming for Laura to remain as support for this committee.
- It was voted unanimously decided that the Executive Director position be filled.
- The Greater Boston Federal Executive Board sent a letter for consideration of a sponsorship for the Greater Boston Federal Executive Board's Excellence in Government Program. The Board unanimously voted to decline this sponsorship.

6. Next meeting:

- Patrick will call Phil McTizic for a possible full membership meeting at the Springfield courthouse.
- Other possible full membership meeting locations were discussed: Armory; Salmon fishery in Sunderland; USDA- organic farms; post office

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Recorder: Laura Szwajkowski