



TOWN OF WATERTOWN  
**Council on Aging**  
SENIOR CENTER

31 MARSHALL STREET  
WATERTOWN, MASS. 02472-3403  
TELEPHONE: (617) 972-6490  
FAX: (617) 972-6493  
[www.watertown-ma.gov](http://www.watertown-ma.gov)

Caryl Leslie Fox  
Director of Senior Services

Patricia Gold, *Chairperson*

***Minutes of C.O.A. Board Meeting – November 10, 2010***

Members present: Mary Keenan, Betty Finnell, Dottie Fleming, Hagop Sarkissian, Will Twombly, and Mike Donham.

Members Excused Absence: Pat Gold and Jane Stadolnik.

Staff members present: Caryl Fox, Kathleen Wolf, Debbie Dunn, and Laura Gold.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Board member Mary Keenan.

1. The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Board members. Dottie Fleming made a motion to approve the minutes and Mike Donham seconded. Passed.
2. Financial Statements:  
The financial statements for October were reviewed. Will Twombly asked about the program supply line item, which is low because of the cost of the parking stickers. Caryl Fox is aware of that situation as well as the emergency assistance line item and will ask the Town Manager for a transfer from other line items when needed.
3. Medicare Part D Changes and SHINE Program:  
The Senior Center is receiving many inquiries about the changes in the Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Coverage, including the elimination of some insurance plans. Calls are coming from younger new subscribers, the more frail seniors, and families. The SHINE volunteer is seeing as many people as possible during her weekly appointments and staff is also referring people to call both the regional and state information phone lines.
4. Retirement Planning:  
The Social Security / Medicare federal worker, Fran Kollias, has agreed to do a pre-retirement planning seminar for older adults and families who are new to the programs and the choices they will need to make. Ms. Kollias is an excellent speaker and very knowledgeable. The program will be held on an early evening in the spring so that people who are still working full-time may attend.
5. Snow Shoveling and Winter Weather Policy:  
The winter weather policy is that programs are cancelled and the shopping bus doesn't run if Watertown schools are closed. If schools open late, morning activities are cancelled. Instructors may also choose not to meet in bad weather and attendees are encouraged to make a choice that makes sense for their individual situation. Staff members are always here during regular office hours.

At present, we seem to have an adequate number of individuals who will shovel snow for

seniors for a fee. The Senior Center acts as a clearing house in this situation and does not endorse anyone. Some people are just shovellers, some have a snow blower, and one on our list is a landscaper with a plow. The question was asked if workers price by the hour, or the job and what the going average rate is.

6. Election Access Issues:

People call the Senior Center looking for rides to the polls. The Marshall Home Taxi Grant is used if a volunteer cannot be found. An issue of clear signage of handicapped entrances at some polling location was raised.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Submitted by Caryl Leslie Fox