

Watertown Council on Aging

SENIOR CENTER

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PATRICIA GOLD, Chairperson

CARYL LESLIE FOX

MARIE MORELLO, Vice-Chairperson

Director of Senior Services

Minutes of C.O.A. Board Meeting – October 11, 2006

Present: Pat Gold, Marie Morello, Jane Stadolnik, Barbara Zenn Rediker, Betty Finnell, Mary Keenan, Dottie Fleming, Chris Hursh, and Will Twombly.

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairperson, Pat Gold.
2. The minutes of the last Board meeting were read by Board members. Dottie Fleming made a motion to approve and Mary Keenan seconded. Passed.
3. Financial Statements:

The COA financial reports for FY '07 through September 30, 2006 were reviewed by the Board. Caryl Fox noted that there is generally less money spent in the beginning of the fiscal year. Barbara Zenn Rediker made a motion to approve and Jane Stadolnik seconded. Passed.

4. Correspondence:
 - a. A card was received by a senior who said how much she appreciated that we sent a get well card.

b. A Watertown senior thanked us for providing our shuttle bus to take people to the Rotary Club picnic on September 17, 2006.

c. There is a new COA / Senior Center flyer that Kathleen Wolf has updated.

d. Project Bread awarded \$7,700 to the Watertown Food Pantry.

e. The Recreation Department will be using our bus again on Saturdays to transport special needs adults for bowling.

f. We now have a waiver of liability form for Tai Chi class.

g. An emergency inventory site form for the Senior Center was completed and returned to the Health Department.

h. Fuel assistance guidelines for '06 – '07 are now available.

5. Staff Reports:

Caryl Fox summarized information from the three staff reports. The Library offered Town Department furnishings from the Phillips School. We obtained some wooden display racks and other items that we can use at the Center. Computer classes will be resuming in November as we now have new used computers. The Senior Shuttle bus had a problem with its circuit board and was out of commission for four days. Caryl Fox authorize a rental bus for one of these days. Programs in September included an AARP safe driving class and a lecture by SHINE. We also co-sponsored a program on identity theft with Watertown Savings Bank. Case work situations included a long-term client who was recently placed in a nursing home, home visits to a woman in her seventies who has mid-stage Alzheimer's, and consultant calls to a family concerning their ninety year old aunt. The reports were accepted by acclamation.

6. Old Business:

a. Springwell Update:

Russian-style home delivered meals will be available in Watertown. Springwell has been encountering more frail clients with complex situations and is providing more supervision to staff. Springwell will be hosting three

legal seminars addressing estate planning needs through Boston College Legal Services.

b. Quarterly Attendance Numbers:

Exercise classes, yoga, health screenings, and lectures were among the groups that showed increases in this quarter. Some activities at the Center resumed in September after stopping for the summer.

7. New Business:

a. Faire in the Square:

Board members were in charge of the COA/Senior Center table at the event on September 30, 2006. They reported that the table location was better this year and that the new sign worked very well. The resource guide was a popular item for people to take as well as flyers on senior and Food Pantry services. One person commented he'd like to have the singing group start again. We have been looking for a new leader for awhile.

b. Furnishings and Appliances for Senior Center:

The Town Manager allocated ten thousand dollars in the FY '07 budget for furnishings. The Senior Center needs a new refrigerator as well as new large and portable televisions. Board members discussed the possibility of replacing lounge area and conference room furnishings. A Board member may know of an interior designer who may be able to help us pro bono.

c. Flu Shots Update:

The tentative dates in October for flu shots will not happen. The vaccine has not yet been distributed to towns and cities. We have set possible November dates but it depends on the health Department receiving the serum.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Submitted by Caryl Leslie Fox