



TOWN OF WATERTOWN
Council on Aging
SENIOR CENTER

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Caryl Leslie Fox
Director of Senior Services

Patricia Gold, Chairperson

Minutes of COA Board Meeting- June 13, 2012

Members present: Pat Gold, Mary Keenan, Hagop Sarkissian, Will Twombly, Mike Donham, and V.V. Martin.

Member excused absence: Dottie Fleming.

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Chairperson, Pat Gold.

1. Board members reviewed the minutes of the last meeting. A correction was noted by Will Twombly. V.V. Martin made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected and Mary Keenan seconded. Passed.

2. Financial Statements:

The financial statements for May were reviewed. Caryl Fox noted that many of the line items will be further spent down before the end of the fiscal year. Money in Building Maintenance will be used for extra Senior Center cleaning.

3. FY 2013 Budget Update:

The COA's FY '13 budget was presented to the Town Council by Caryl Fox on May 29, 2012. The Town Council passed the entire budget for the Town at its June 12, 2012 meeting. The budget approved is a level service one, which includes some small line item increases. Staff has received cost-of-living increases.

4. Shopping Bus Update:

On May 17, 2012, Caryl Fox, D.P.W. Superintendent Gerry Mee, and COA driver Joe Cavallaro met with a sales representative from one of the bus companies. We are waiting to receive a quote that includes a trade-in for our current vehicle. The Town Council has approved the funds.

5. Multi-purpose Room New Furniture:

Under this year's capital improvement line item we are purchasing new furniture for the multi-purpose room and some new long folding tables. Debbie Dunn put a lot of time and energy into researching companies for the best products and pricing. In FY '13, we are planning on replacing the deck and purchasing new drapes for the Center.

6. Summer / Fall Schedule:

Most Senior Center activities are continuing through the summer. Yoga will have a substitute instructor and painting class will be "art on your own" without a teacher. WBZ weather forecaster, Barry

Burbank will be at the Center on June 27, 2012. During the summer, Kathleen Wolf has scheduled a six-week series of workshops on living with arthritis.

All regular programs resume in September. Upcoming lectures include a program by the Massachusetts Bar Association and a talk on downsizing.

7. New Business:

Proposal for a Town Social Worker:

Will Twombly has been involved in a committee chaired by Town Councilor, Tony Palumba, which is trying to get a social worker for Watertown to serve people eighteen to sixty. He reported on the current status of the proposal. The group has gotten funding pledges from different organizations for one to two years. The contract would be with a social service agency such as Advocates or Wayside. The over-seeing department would be the Health Department.

The social worker would be responsible for information and referral, short-term intervention and follow-up. Currently, the Town Council has referred this proposal to the Committee of Budget and Fiscal Oversight. Will Twombly asked the COA Board if it would vote in support of the concept of adding a social worker. A decision was made to postpone the vote until after the Budget Committee's recommendations.

9. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Submitted by Caryl Leslie Fox