



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- December 12, 2012

Members present: Mary Keenan, Will Twombly, Hagop Sarkissian, Carol Airasian, and Dorothy Brown.

Member excused absence: Pat Gold, Mike Donham, and V.V. Martin.

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

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

1. The minutes of November's COA Board meeting were read by members. Hagop Sarkissian made a motion to approve the minutes and Dorothy Brown seconded. Passed.

2. Financial Statements:

Caryl Fox highlighted areas from the financial statements. All line items are in good shape right now as is the Senior Center Revolving Fund and the Food Pantry Revolving Fund. Ms. Fox reminded Board members that a new system has been set up that allows people to donate to the Food Pantry through the Town's website, using check or credit card.

3. New Bus Expected Arrival Date:

Caryl Fox reported that the Matthews Bus Company representative emailed her recently that the new bus is expected to be delivered to the Town in March. The delay has been the special ordering of the Freightliner chassis.

4. Social Security & Medicare New Information for 2013:

There will be a 1.7% increase in cost-of-living for Social Security recipients in 2013. For many, this small increase will be offset by higher rates in Medicare supplement policies. On December 5, 2012, Social Security representative, Fran Kollias, gave an excellent presentation on Social Security and Medicare changes. She was available to respond to individual questions and concerns after her lecture. It can be difficult to get through to Social Security on the phone and some get confused trying through their computer.

5. Fuel Assistance & Good Neighbor Fund - 2012 / 2013 Guidelines & Payments:

Caryl Fox distributed copies of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program Income and Benefit Level Chart for Fuel Assistance put out by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as well as information on the Salvation Army's Good Neighbor Energy Fund guidelines. Families that are slightly over the income levels for Fuel Assistance can qualify for the Good Neighbor program. The Fuel Assistance program has become much stricter in the verifications that must be submitted in order to be considered for eligibility for this program. The consequences for this new reality for seniors and families were discussed by Board members.

6. The meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm.

Submitted by Caryl Leslie Fox