



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

Caryl Leslie Fox
Director of Senior Services

Patricia Gold, Chairperson

Minutes of COA Board Meeting- April 10, 2013

Members present: Pat Gold, Mary Keenan, Will Twombly, Mike Donham, V.V. Martin, Dottie Brown, and Carol Airasian.

Members excused absence: Hagop Sarkissian

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

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

1. The [March minutes](#) were read by Board members. V.V. Martin made a motion to approve the minutes and Will Twombly seconded. Passed.
2. Financial Statements:
Board members reviewed the [financial statements](#). All of the line items are on target. Mike Donham made a motion to approve and Dottie Brown seconded. Passed.
3. New Senior Bus Arrival:
The new senior shuttle bus was delivered to Watertown on April 4, 2013. The vehicle is easier to operate, energy efficient, and much more comfortable for the passengers. Our driver and all the regular riders have high praise for the improved shuttle.
4. Aging LGBT Community Outreach Event Update:
The documentary film about LGBT seniors, "Gen Silent" will be jointly sponsored by the Watertown COA, the Watertown Library, and the organization, the World in Watertown. It will be shown as a free and intergenerational event at the library. Kathleen Wolf will select an available date and email the information to the Board members. All three groups will publicize the movie so that as many people as possible are aware of the showing.
5. Yard Sale 2013:
The annual fund-raiser for the Senior Center will be on Saturday, May 4, 2013. The sale brings in people of all ages in the community who come to donate and to shop. Seniors who volunteer and those who participate in any way, take great pride in being a part of this project.

6. Watertown Seniors and Enforcement of Driving Laws:

Board member, Mike Donham, had heard that various Massachusetts communities were targeting seniors for minor driving infractions and then that senior were losing their license because of these infractions. He added that he had heard there was a push in the state to strictly enforce driving regulations for seniors because a driving test had not been part of the new Massachusetts driving rules for seniors. Caryl Fox and other staff said they had not heard from any Watertown seniors or those in neighboring communities that this had happened to them or someone they knew. The difficulty of determining when someone is not safe to be driving was discussed.

7. "Watertown Together" (Village) Project Update:

The Board and staff discussed the Watertown Together Project which held a meeting recently that Board member, Mike Donham, attended. Organizers of this group have met with Caryl Fox several times since the beginning of this project. They have indicated that they don't want to duplicate our services. The project plans to utilize volunteers, provide programs and services. Watertown seniors will join as members to become a part of the organization. This new project has goals of providing people more choices as well as fostering a close-knit community. The original project, which has been quite successful, was started on Beacon Hill.

7. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Submitted by Caryl Leslie Fox