

# 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 – September 3, 2008

Present: Pat Gold, Marie Morello, Mary Keenan, Betty Finnell, Dottie Fleming, and Will Twombly.

Members Excused Absence: Jane Stadolnik and Chris Hursh.

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

The statements included July and August. Caryl Fox noted that the emergency assistance line item included a larger payment for a Watertown resident that the Town will reimburse. Dottie Fleming made a motion to approve and Betty Finnell seconded. Passed.
4. Correspondence:
  - a. A thank you note was received by Caryl Fox from Mary Keenan for her attendance at the Marshall Place residents' party.

b. Kathleen Wolf received a thank you note from Will Twombly for his volunteer acknowledgment and gift.

c. A thank you note was sent from a senior in appreciation of our excellent trips.

d. Deb Kaup wrote a thank you note to VHB, a Watertown business that contributes to the Pantry financially and through volunteer help.

e. The Recreation Department requested use of our bus for a weekend in August to transport Watertown residents to the Special Olympics in Springfield.

f. The Senior Shuttle will be used by the Recreation Department for the special needs bowling trips in the fall and winter.

g. Flyers from the Watertown library list the schedule for book discussion groups of "The Namesake", including one at the Senior Center.

5. Staff Reports:

Caryl Fox highlighted areas from the three staff reports. I submitted a revised EOEA Formula Grant because the amount for each town was raised an additional .2%. I completed the EOEA FY '08 Annual Report and met with the regional coordinator for SHINE. I have been placed on a Town Emergency Management Committee. The Senior Shuttle needed repairs in July and a rental bus was used as a substitute one of the days, ours was not running. Lectures planned by Kathleen Wolf this summer included the Veteran's Agent, a speaker from the Salvation Army, a representative from Springwell concerning their new caregiver's notebook and a financial planning lecture. Laura Gold has been working with a client involving driving issues. The reports were accepted by acclamation.

6. Old Business:

a. Springwell Update:

Springwell has a new mission statement, which Caryl Fox read to the Board. Springwell has to increase some payments to vendors due to the increased cost of gas. The agency is looking at the cost of keeping meal sites open that have low attendance and low donation contributions. Watertown is not in danger of being closed.

b. Senior Center Improvement Update:

This summer, an additional air-conditioning unit was put in and a hot water tank that is separate from the heating system. The heating unit still needs to be repaired. The Maintenance Director for the School Department has recommended a contractor. He has looked at the system and thinks he can fix

it using our department line item. We plan to get a new phone system and a new rug.

7. New Business:

a. Fall Schedule:

All the groups that didn't meet in the summer will be returning in September, including the Mellowtones, art class, tai chi, book club and knitting groups. Lectures will include an information session on the change in television broadcasting from analog to digital, the Town Assessor and Prevention of Falls.

b. Faire in the Square 2008:

Caryl Fox has not yet received confirmation about our table, but she is sure it will be coming shortly. Several Board members volunteered to help on the day of the event.

c. October Board Meeting:

The October Board meeting has been changed from October 8, 2008 to October 15, 2008.

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

Submitted by Caryl Leslie Fox