



Watertown Council on Aging

SENIOR CENTER
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PATRICIA GOLD, *Chairperson*

CARYL LESLIE FOX
Director of Senior Services

Minutes of COA Board Meeting- July 13, 2011

Members present: Pat Gold, Mary Keenan, Mike Donham, and Hagop Sarkissian
Member excused absence: Dottie Fleming and Will Twombly
Staff members present: Caryl Fox, Debbie Dunn, Kathleen Wolf, and Laura Gold

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

1. The Board members reviewed the minutes of the June meeting. Mary Keenan made a motion to approve and Mike Donham seconded. Passed.

2. Financial Statements:

The statements reflect the final numbers for FY '11. Line items were spent down. Two transfers had to be put into the electricity line items. Hopefully, any difficulties in the building system will be determined by a study done of all Town buildings.

3. SHINE / Medicare Update:

Caryl Fox noted that the open enrollment period for Medicare has now been set for October 15, 2011 through December 7, 2011. This information has been printed on bulletin boards in the Center and is in the newsletter. People with questions or thinking of making changes will be encouraged to make a SHINE appointment early because the schedule does fill quickly.

4. Trips Update:

The trip for July is filled with a waiting list. It includes a boat cruise of Newport Harbor and is reasonably priced. A day trip to the Scallop Festival in September has been scheduled as well as a foliage trip to New Hampshire and a holiday cabaret show / Foxwoods trip. We try to vary the locations and types of trips and keep the cost as low as possible.

5. Shopping Bus Update:

The bus has needed several repairs recently, including for the break-down of the wheelchair ramp. A new bus is still proposed for the COA. It will be part of a loan authorization this fall.

6. LGBT Update:

Pat Gold reported that she recently attended a Marshall Home Board meeting that featured Lisa Krinsky, a former Springwell staffer, of the LGBT Aging Project. Ms. Krinsky spoke of issues faced by LGBT elders. A committee has formed to look into possible training on these issues for Watertown health providers. Marshall Home Fund may be able to use some of its financial resources toward this project.

7. Housing Court Proposal:

COA Chairperson, Pat Gold, has been advocating for Watertown to have a housing court. She has spoken with Town Councilors and State Representative Jon Hecht. Watertown residents would be able to go to a local court that specifically addresses housing issues. The Town may be able to be added to some already proposed legislation concerning housing court locations.

9. The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Submitted by Caryl Leslie Fox