



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 – January 11, 2012

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

Member excused absence: Will Twombly and Dottie Fleming.

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

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

1. Minutes of Last Board Meeting:

The minutes of the December meeting were read by Board members. Mike Donham made a motion to approve the minutes and Mary Keenan seconded. Passed.

2. Financial Statements:

Caryl Fox noted that the line items are currently in sync with the monthly expenses and that she and Debbie Dunn monitor the situation carefully. The Food Pantry has received generous donations throughout December.

3. Springwell Update from Jerry Singsen, Springwell Board Member:

Gerry Singsen, a member of the Springwell Board, who was recommended by the Watertown COA, gave an update on the organization. He complimented Springwell for being a very well-run agency. They have continued to grow despite cut-backs in state funding. He noted that Springwell will be moving to Waltham.

Caryl Fox spoke about the on-going partnership that we have with Springwell, including case referrals, shared clients, classes and workshops, and regular collaboration with COA and Springwell staff. Pat Gold discussed the upcoming LGBT project with Springwell, funded by the Marshall Home Fund.

4. Capital Projects:

The senior shuttle bus is expected to be voted on by the Town Council for purchase this year. The Town allocated capital improvement money in the COA budget each year. This fiscal year, we plan to purchase new tables and chairs for the multi-purpose room and for our large group events in the gym. Future projects include exterior and interior painting and a new roof for the building.

5. Property Tax Work-off Update:

Caryl Fox has interviewed applicants and assigned placements for the program. Half of the people selected were new participants and all of them met low-income guidelines. People will be working for the schools, library, personnel, and building departments.

6. Snow Shoveling Update:

The Town Council is addressing the snow shoveling issue at their January 24, 2012 meeting. The possibility of an ordinance in Watertown is being raised at that time. A notice to help an older neighbor with shoveling has been put on cable, in the Tab, our senior newsletter, and distributed through flyers.

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

Submitted by Caryl Leslie Fox