



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 – March 14, 2012

Members present: Pat Gold, Dottie Fleming, Will Twombly, V.V. Martin, Hagop Sarkissian, and Mike Donham.

Member excused absence: Mary Keenan.

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

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

1. Minutes of Last Board Meeting:

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

2. Financial Statements:

Caryl Fox reviewed the February financial statements with Board members. The department is doing well in spending line items as needed through the third quarter of the fiscal year. The Board would like to see current and past year statistics of those using the Food Pantry.

3. 2012 Day Trips:

Debbie Dunn, Kathleen Wolf, and Caryl Fox reviewed day trip ideas and then went over the list with Peter Cruza, of Atlantic Coach. We try to balance cost, variety, and physical endurance as we plan our schedule.

4. Cable TV Meeting:

Caryl Fox and Kathleen Wolf met with Tamara Green, the director of Watertown's cable access television. Ms. Green is interested in video-taping some of our lectures and would be willing to train seniors who would like to learn the process. It would be good to have some of our education sessions reach a wider audience.

5. Energy Study of Senior Center:

The Board reviewed the written material by the firm that did the study last year of all Town buildings, including the Senior Center. According to Pat Gold, the Town now has someone in place who will review all the material from the consulting company. It is anticipated that action will be taken on needed energy renovations in FY '14, not FY '13.

6. LGBT Event Update:

Will Twombly reported that a date has been set for June 13, 2012 for the training event being held at Springwell. It is planned to be helpful to all those who work with seniors, in a variety of professions and jobs.

7. Proposed Town Social Worker:

Will Twombly discussed the proposal for a Town social worker that several people have been working on since last year with Town Councilor, Tony Palomba. There will be a sub-committee meeting on March 20, 2012 at 6:30 to discuss the issue. A private-public partnership is being explored.

8. Pat Gold talked about concerns about the cost of the RIDE and MBTA bus and subway fares going up and the impact on seniors. This issue will need to be watched closely.

9. Pat Gold also wants people to be aware of the problem of affordable health care and the future of health care in the state. She suggested that Jon Hecht be invited to come for a lecture so that Watertown seniors are kept informed.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Submitted by Caryl Leslie Fox