



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- October 9, 2013

Members present: Mary Keenan, Will Twombly, V.V. Martin, Carol Airasian, and Dorothy Jean Brown.

Members excused absence: Pat Gold and Mike Donham.

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm by COA Board member, Mary Keenan.

1. The [minutes](#) from September's meeting were reviewed by Board members. Dorothy Jean Brown made a motion to approve and Will Twombly seconded. Passed.

2. Financial Statements:

Caryl Fox highlighted areas from the [financial statements](#). She noted that it is early in the fiscal year and all the line items are ok. Although it was not received in time to be recorded by the end of September, the Food Pantry has once again received a \$7,700 grant from Project Bread. The majority of this is used for Stop & Shop gift cards for Thanksgiving for regular Watertown Food Pantry clients.

3. FY '14 Property Tax Work-off Program:

Applications are coming in from interested Town departments and from prospective workers. The program allows up to ten eligible Watertown seniors to work for seventy-four hours for a participating department in exchange for seven hundred and fifty dollars off of a real estate bill. Caryl Fox will interview in November and people start in January.

4. Shopping Bus to Mall Increase:

The Senior Shuttle goes to the Watertown and Arsenal malls one morning a month. Starting in October, it will run two mornings per month. Seniors from 100 Warren St. expressed interest in the increase to Town Councilor, Ken Woodland, who contacted Caryl Fox. Funding for the driver will be paid through the EOEI Formula Grant.

5. [Fuel Assistance](#) 2013:

This federal and state funded program begins on November 1, 2013 for people applying for the first time. Caryl Fox and Laura Gold help Watertown seniors and Watertown residents with

disabilities to fill out the forms which are then sent to Community Teamwork in Lowell, the agency that makes the decisions. Ms. Gold is also available to make home visits, if needed. She also assists with those needing help with re-determination forms. We are not expecting increases in the amounts that people receive this year.

6. SHINE & Medicare Plan Changes:

October 15 – December 7 is open enrollment for Medicare participants seeking changes in their supplemental coverage. SHINE volunteer, Jean Mitchell, will be available for four weekly appointments, instead of the usual three during this time. This state-funded program is free of charge and much appreciated by those who benefit from Ms. Mitchell's expertise.

7. [Social Service Resource Specialist](#):

Will Twombly reported that this position has been approved by the Town Council. The worker will be working twenty-four hours a week through the Wayside Youth and Family Center and is designed to help individuals between the ages of eighteen and sixty. Funding is from a variety of sources including the Harvard/O'Neill Enrichment Fund and is for a two year period.

7. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Submitted by Caryl Leslie Fox