

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 – April 11, 2007

Present: Pat Gold, Marie Morello, Dottie Fleming, Barbara Zenn Rediker, Mary Keenan, Betty Finnell, Jane Stadolnik, and Will Twombly.

Members Excused Absence: Chris Hursh.

1. The meeting was called to order at five thirty by Chairperson Pat Gold.
2. Board members read the minutes of the March meeting. Several corrections were noted. Barbara Zenn Rediker made a motion to approve the minutes as amended and Dottie Fleming seconded. Passed.
3. Financial Statements:
The financial statements for March were reviewed. The Emergency Assistance line item is a bit low, but there should be enough through the end of the fiscal year. The Electricity and Medical Transportation line items are also being monitored in case any transfers are needed. Will Twombly made a motion to approve and Mary Keenan seconded. Passed.
4. Correspondence:

a. There was an article in the March 23, 2007 Tab about seniors staying independent. Caryl Fox and Pat Gold were quoted.

b. Springwell has provided us with some literature on housing options. They recently gave a lecture on the subject at the Center.

c. The Division of Motor Vehicles also gave us some excellent brochures when they came to the Senior Center for a lecture.

5. Staff Reports:

Caryl Fox and Pat Gold taped a cable television show in March on senior services along with Sue Temper of Springwell and Veteran's Agent, Bob Erickson. On March 9, 2007, Caryl Fox spoke at a local Massachusetts Association for the Blind support group. The income tax volunteers have done an excellent job and all the slots have been filled. A new Mellowtones instructor, who had been interested in working with us, has been able to take over the group. The woman from Watertown decided the group was not a good fit for her. Due to Kathleen Wolf's interventions, all the interested group members returned for the new leader. EDCO students are working with several seniors on a multimedia art project that is grant funded. Town Treasurer, Phyllis Marshall, made another request to Laura Gold for her assistance with a problem situation. The reports were accepted by acclamation.

6. Old Business:

a. Springwell Update:

Some of the priorities for the organization at this time include mental health help for non-English speaking clients, chronic disease medication management, and training minorities in health care. Their funding is sufficient to keep intake referrals moving into the system, so that waiting list will not be needed. The organization is looking into the possibility of charging fees if they offer home repair services.

b. Furnishings Update:

All of the furniture has been ordered. The conference table and chairs may be in before the next Board meeting.

7. New Business:

a. Quarterly Attendance Numbers:

Seniors came steadily to programs despite the cold weather. Groups that showed increases in attendance during this quarter included the lecture program, wow group, line dancing, and bingo.

b. Volunteer Award Nominees:

Board members will be thinking of Watertown citizens who would be eligible for the Community Service Award. Will Twombly suggested two people who are good possibilities.

c. Yard Sale:

The Senior Center's annual fund-raising Yard Sale is on Saturday, May 5, 2007 from ten until two. Board members are encouraged to bring items for the sale and are welcome to volunteer with set-up or on the day of the sale.

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

Submitted by Caryl Leslie Fox