

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 – July 11, 2007

Present: Pat Gold, Betty Finnell, Mary Keenan, Marie Morello, and Will Twombly.

Members Excused Absence: Dottie Fleming, Barbara Zenn Rediker, Jane Stadolnik, and Chris Hursh.

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 by Chairperson Pat Gold.
2. The minutes of the June meeting were read by Board members. Several minor corrections were noted. Will Twombly made a motion to approve the minutes as amended and Mary Keenan seconded. Passed.
3. Financial Statements:

Board members reviewed the financial reports. Caryl Fox noted that all of the line item numbers are final figures for FY '07 except for electricity (which will be lower). Betty Finnell made a motion to approve the reports and Will Twombly seconded. Passed.
4. Correspondence:
 - a. A letter to the Town Manager explaining the need for Senior Center improvements was sent by Caryl Fox on behalf of the COA. It was part of information given to the Town Council for a loan authorization for Town buildings.
 - b. The Mason's organization sent a notice about a resource site in Malden where used medical equipment can be dropped off or borrowed.

c. A copy of Springwell's Russian home-delivered meals menu was available for Board members.

5. Staff Reports:

Caryl Fox highlighted the three staff reports. The Marshall Home taxi grant has been publicized and the program was operational effective July 2, 2007. Ms. Fox spoke in favor of improvement needed for the Senior Center building at the June 26, 2007 Town Council meeting. The Birthday Party on June 8, 2007 included the volunteer recognition event. Lectures in June included the Veteran's agent, Bob Erikson and an attorney's talk on trust funds. The reports were accepted by acclamation.

6. Old Business:

a. Springwell Update:

Recent statistics on programs and services in the combined seven towns that Springwell serves were available. Springwell is publicizing Food Stamps for seniors. The annual barbecues will be held at 55 Waverly Ave. and 100 Warren St. housing sites.

b. Quarterly Attendance Numbers:

Attendance remained steady and increased from the previous quarter in some of the programs including WOW, health screenings, movies, and whist. The next quarter will include the Marshall Home Taxi grant fund.

7. New Business:

a. Capital Improvements for Senior Center:

The Town Council voted to approve the loan authorization for capital improvements for the Center. It includes exterior painting and HVAC repairs.

b. Reverse 911:

Board members discussed the effectiveness of using "reverse 911" for seniors. It was used recently in Boston as a hot weather alert.

c. MSPCA:

Will Twombly suggested on checking with the MSPCA as he heard that they may provide pet care when owners are ill.

d. Armstrong Ambulance Co.

Mary Keenan noted that Armstrong Ambulance Co. provides a service where they will physically help you get in and out of the house at a cost of fifty dollars each way. This would be less expensive for an individual than the cost of ambulance transportation.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Submitted by Caryl Leslie Fox