

Watertown Council on Aging

SENIOR CENTER

31 MARSHALL ST.

WATERTOWN, MA 02472-3403

TELEPHONE: 617-972-6490

FAX: 617-972-6493

PATRICIA GOLD, Chairperson

CARYL LESLIE FOX

MARIE MORELLO, Vice-Chairperson

Director of Senior Services

Minutes of C.O.A. Board Meeting – November 14, 2007

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

Members Excused Absence: Pat Gold and Chris Hursh.

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 by Vice-Chairperson Marie Morello.
2. Board members read the minutes from the October meeting. Will Twombly made a motion to accept the minutes and Mary Keenan seconded. Passed.
3. Financial Statements:

This month the Marshall Home Taxi grant was included with the other reports. Caryl Fox noted that the gas line item is still low because we haven't received any heating bills yet. Will Twombly made a motion to approve the reports and Dottie Fleming seconded. Passed.
4. Correspondence:
 - a. A thank you note was received from the Boston Interfaith Group on Aging that met with Caryl Fox.

b. Deb Kaup wrote a note thanking VHB (a Watertown company) for all of their financial and volunteer support of the Pantry.

c. Brigham House will have a Veteran's Day celebration in memory of Russell Buchanan.

d. There is information on a flu shot clinic on November 16, 2007. Sign-up is through Newton-Wellesley Hospital. Flyers are posted about the next flu clinic at the Senior Center on November 28, 2007.

e. The Senior Center has copies available of the latest booklet by Social Security on understanding benefits.

5. Staff Reports:

Caryl Fox highlighted areas from the three staff reports. The format of the newsletter was changed so that it is now double the number of pages and includes the calendar. Senior Citizen Publishing pays the cost through selling advertising, and we no longer have a bill for calendar printing. Kathleen Wolf did a great job on layout and design. Debbie Dunn and Caryl Fox evaluated the building for capital needs and Caryl Fox submitted forms for capital improvement projects over the next five year. October lectures included the Prescription Advantage program and Social Security. A flu shot session was held on October 10, 2007 and the Harvest Party was October 26, 2007. The reports were accepted by acclamation.

6. Old Business:

a. Springwell Update:

The new Secretary of Elder Affairs is Mike Festa. Springwell received some federal money for program development in healthy eating.

b. Senior Center Improvements Update:

Exterior painting was completed this month with just minor touch-ups still needed. The Center looks so much better. The interior of the building will be painted during this fiscal year.

7. New Business:

a. Fuel Assistance:

We have begun appointments for Watertown seniors who are applying for fuel assistance for the first time. With high heating costs, we are concerned that all those who are eligible, apply. There is information in the newsletter, at the Center, in the Tab, and on cable about this program.

b. Property Tax Work-off Program:

Caryl Fox interviewed the candidates for this year's work-off program. We have some seniors with very good experience, who have applied. All of those selected this year will be participating for the first time. Placements will be in the library, schools, assessor's department, and personnel.

c. Will Twombly announced that there will be a meeting on “Understanding Genocide” on November 28, 2007.

d. Will Twombly told the Board that the Martin Luther King breakfast will be on January 20, 2008, and the featured speaker will be Liz Walker.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Submitted by Caryl Leslie Fox