

# 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 – April 9, 2008**

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

Members Excused Absence: Will Twombly.

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 by Chairperson Pat Gold.
2. Board members read the March minutes. Barbara Zenn Rediker made a motion to accept the minutes and Marie Morello seconded. Passed.
3. Financial Statements:

The Board reviewed all of the financial statements for March. Caryl Fox noted that the line items should have enough funding for the rest of FY '08. Chris Hursh made a motion to approve and Dottie Fleming seconded. Passed.

4. Correspondence:

a. An invitation was received to attend the Marshall Home Fund Grant Awards.

b. Current Watertown Food Pantry statistics were recorded by Food Pantry coordinator, Deb Kaup. A copy was included with Board members packets.

c. Information was sent to the COA concerning an emergency planning session for people with disabilities that will be held in Watertown at the end of May.

5. Staff Reports:

Caryl Fox highlighted the three staff reports. AARP volunteers are staying at the Center an extra two weeks to help low-income seniors with the tax form for the stimulus package. We now have four computers available for the beginner's computer class. We will get some newer ones for the class this summer from the data processing department. We received a grant from the Marshall Home Fund to continue our taxi project. After a popular meditation workshop, we hope to offer a series in the fall with financial help from the Friends group. The reports were accepted by acclamation.

6. Old Business:

a. Springwell Update:

The agency is trying to develop better supports to provide mental health assistance to their clients. Springwell held two community meetings about creating different kinds of supports to help people age at home. Springwell has improved the Russian home-delivered meal.

b. Quarterly Attendance Numbers:

Almost all activities increased in attendance from the previous quarter, despite the cold, winter weather. The exercise classes, tai chi, and the movie program had the biggest growths.

7. New Business:

a. Mechanical Systems Upgrade – Building Study:

Caryl Fox reviewed the copy of the report from the engineering consultant firm that was hired to help us come up with solutions for our HVAC system. Inadequate heat in the winter has been a specific problem. The firm has come up with recommendations for improvements. The

Purchasing Department is sending out requests for quotes to interested companies.

b. Performance Measures FY '08 AND FY '09:

The performance measure system has been instituted for all Town departments. Documents were given to the Board that included numbers for FY '08 and goals for FY '09 under the four headings that constitute this measurement system.

c. Yard Sale:

The annual fund-raiser for the Senior Center Revolving Fund will be held on Saturday, May 3, 2008 from ten am to two pm. People may bring in their donated items starting April 28, 2008. This event is important not just for the money it brings in, but also as a senior activity and opportunity for the community to learn about the Center. Board members volunteered to bring articles for the sale and/or to help us with set-up and selling.

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

Submitted by Caryl Leslie Fox