

**COMMISSION ON AGING
REGULAR MEETING
September 2, 2009**

STONINGTON HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING COMMUNITY ROOM

The regular meeting of the Commission on Aging was held on September 2, 2009 in the Human Services Building Community Room. Members present were: Maryann Bessette, Stacy Casatta, Betty Croteau, Robert Elmer, Karen Hawthorn, Toni Potter, Lisa Ryan, David Schmidt. Also attending: Beth Stewart, Director, Stonington Human Services, Carol Umphlett Agent For The Elderly, Stonington Human Services. Unable to attend were: Kathleen Crockford, Virginia Turek, Billie Ward, Jennifer Young.

Guests attending: June Strunk, Vice President of PNC Board.

The meeting was called to order by Robert Elmer at 4:03 p.m.

Minutes of the August 5, 2009 meeting were presented. June Strunk requested a minor change in her report on PNC bus rides. Motion to make the change and accept minutes and place on file made by Bob Elmer. Seconded by Maryann Bessette. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report was presented by Bob Elmer on behalf of Jennifer Young. The following amounts are available for use: Postage: \$2315.00; Reproduction & Printing: \$0.00; Program Expenses: \$2116.02 for a budget total of \$5,531.02. There is \$101.50 in the Postage Due account and \$1,639.93 in the Permit Imprint account. Motion to accept report and place on file made by Toni Potter. Seconded by Stacy Cassata. Motion carried.

Bob also gave the following COMO update on behalf of Jennifer Young: H1N1 Conversation with Cindy Barry on September 27 at 12:30. The focus will be on seniors but the public is welcome. SECT VNA Flu Clinic is scheduled for 10/07/09 from 10:00 – 1:00 and is open to the public. Tennis Lessons: Women's Open begins September 8 (More than 50 seniors played in various groups during the summer of 2009). Slow and Steady Sr. Exercise will resume its old time for the fall session and begins 9/14/09 from 10:15-11:15. New Pottery Class times available Tuesday noon – 3:00, Wednesday 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday morning 9:00-Noon. Creative Writing at the Practice Space in Mystic – Saturdays from 10:30-12:30. Update on COMO's involvement with STAYE (Stonington for AYE). They are a group of seniors interested in aging in their own homes. I have contacted Tim Bates from Our Shoreline Community Association to see what the COMO can possibly do to work with that group. TVCCA Connections: Approximately 40 congregate meals were served and

400 meals were delivered in the month of August. The Stonington Garden Club and Ellie Casey will be honored by the COMO on 9/25/09 during the Stars Over Stonington Fund Raiser. The garden club members have worked tirelessly all spring and summer in the Children's Garden and Ellie Casey is a long time supporter of both the community center and the community at large.

Carol Umphlett, Agent For the Elderly, Stonington Human Services reported that the Renter's Rebate Program has had 206 applications (\$92,308.17). Energy assistance applications began on August 1. 87 applications have been taken to date.

Carol submitted an activity report on behalf of Alicia O'Neil, Human Services Program Coordinator: May 5: AARP Safe Driver's Course 10 attending; May 14: Gray Matters Folding 7 attending; June 9: AARP Safe Driver's Course 13 attending; June 10: AARP Safe Driver's Course 13 attending; August 12: AARP Safe Driver's Course 11 attending; August 13: AARP Safe Driver's Course 11 attending; August 26: Yellow Dot 4 attending. Upcoming events: September 8: AARP Safe Driver's Course at EKR; September 9: Safe Driver's Course at EKR; September 28: Cancer and Disease Prevention Workshop.

Lisa Ryan, legislative liaison for the Stonington COA, reported that the Connecticut Commission on Aging did not have any budget cuts for the new budget year.

June Strunk, Vice President of PNC Board and liaison to the Stonington Commission on Aging, reported that in July, the PNC transportation program provided 643 rides for 53 seniors (38 riders were from Pawcatuck, 3 from Mystic, 6 from Stonington). 177 were rides for medical appointments, 198 were rides to Westerly Adult Day Services, 197 were for senior lunches (with the biggest increase in senior lunches). Two new applicants were approved for the transportation program. June stated that the PNC bus is nearing 110,000 miles. Lisa Ryan inquired whether membership at the PNC has increased since the opening of the Robert A. Granato Senior Center. June will get that information.

OLD BUSINESS

Beth Stewart reminded the Commission members that terms will expire on 12/31/09 for the following members: Maryann Bessette, Betty Croteau, Karen Hawthorn and David Schmidt. If these members intend to be reappointed to the commission, they need to send a letter to the Selectman's Office indicating such.

The COA nominating committee nominated Toni Potter for the Treasurer's position recently held by Jennifer Young. Toni accepted the nomination.

Motion to accept the nomination made by Bob Elmer. Seconded by Maryann Bessette. Motion carried.

Bob Elmer stated that during the October meeting, the Commission will discuss the selection of a new nominating committee for next year.

Beth Stewart inquired whether Commission members had any questions about the Senior Satisfaction Survey results. There were no questions and it was agreed that the results were quite favorable.

Carol Umphlett stated that the Annual TRIAD Conference will be held on October 15, at Central Connecticut State University. Three COA members will be able to attend that conference.

NEW BUSINESS

Bob Elmer will meet on 09/04/09 with Mary Lou Underwood from TVCCA to discuss plans to move meals from the COMO to the Robert A. Granato Senior Center.

Dave Schmidt called Congressman Joe Courtney's office to try to schedule him to speak at the Senior Center. However, he is already booked and has no availability.

Motion to adjourn made by Maryann Bessette. Seconded by Toni Potter. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, October 7, 2009 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Karen Hawthorn
Secretary**