

**COMMISSION ON AGING  
REGULAR MEETING  
November 4, 2009**

**STONINGTON HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING COMMUNITY ROOM**

The regular meeting of the Commission on Aging was held on November 4, 2009 in the Human Services Building Community Room. Members present were: Betty Croteau, Robert Elmer, Karen Hawthorn, Toni Potter, Lisa Ryan, David Schmidt. Also attending: Carol Umphlett Agent For The Elderly, Stonington Human Services; Jennifer Young, Stonington COMO Liason. Unable to attend were: Maryann Bessette, Stacy Cassata, Kathleen Crockford, Virginia Turek, Billie Ward.

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

The meeting was called to order by Robert Elmer at 4:11 p.m.

Minutes of the September 2, 2009 meeting were presented. Motion to accept minutes and place on file made by David Schmidt. Seconded by Toni Potter. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report for September 2009 and October 2009 were presented by Toni Potter. In September, the following amounts were available for use: Postage: \$2500; Reproduction & Printing: \$1100; Program Expenses: \$2200 for a budget total of \$5,800. There was \$0.00 in the Postage Due account and \$1303.34 in the Permit Imprint account. For the month of October 2009, the following amounts were available for use: Postage: \$2500; Reproduction & Printing: \$1,100; Program Expenses: \$2200 for a budget total of \$5800. Motion carried. There are no funds reflected in the Senior Activities Budget. Carol Umphlett stated that funds for that program flow in and out of the account for senior trips. In the future funds may not be reflected in this budget because they will be included in the Recreation budget. Carol also stated that there are no further Gray Matters to be mailed. Any balance will be used to mail the Senior Satisfaction Survey and the quarterly Stonington Human Services Program magazine. Motion to accept report and place on file made by Lisa Ryan. Seconded by Betty Croteau. Motion carried.

Carol Umphlett, Agent for the Elderly, Stonington Human Services reported that there have been many inquiries about flu vaccines and also H1N1. Questions are being referred to the Visiting Nurses for the best information. Energy assistance applications began on August 1. Carol stated that many of these individuals have been completely out of fuel. Deliveries began on Monday, November 2.

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**Lisa Ryan, legislative liaison for the Stonington COA, provided information on The Community Living Assistance Services and Supports (CLASS) Act. Currently the Medicaid program is the nation's primary payer and only safety-net program providing comprehensive long-term services and supports to the aging and/or disabled. Americans are only eligible for Medicaid if they are or if they become poor. Legislation for federally mandated long-term care insurance is surfacing. The CLASS Act is a national, voluntary insurance program to facilitate community services and supports. It would be financed through monthly premiums paid by voluntary payroll deductions.**

**June Strunk, Vice President of PNC Board and liaison to the Stonington Commission on Aging, reported that in August, PNC served 55 seniors for a total of 546 rides. Of those rides, 132 were for medical appointments; 146 were for PNC lunches and activities; 205 for Westerly Adult Day Services; 41 for shopping, banking and pharmacy; 22 for social activities. In September, PNC provided 59 seniors a total of 713 rides. 162 rides for medical appointments; 262 for PNC lunches and activities; 194 for Westerly Adult Day Services; 63 for shopping, banking and pharmacy; 42 for social activities.**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Lisa Ryan inquired about the results of Bob Elmer's meeting 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. The result is that meals will be moved to the Granato Center, however, Jennifer Young stated that she is unsure of the change-over date which could possibly be December 31, 2009 or in March of 2010. The change did not happen immediately because the COMO asked for a transition period.**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**June Strunk, PNC Liaison, inquired if the COA minutes could be reorganized to reflect specific service categories and the number of seniors served in each category (i.e. Transportation: PNC: # Seniors/#Rides; ECTC (SEAT Bus) #Seniors/#Rides; Meals: #Seniors Served and Housing: #Seniors Served). Carol Umphlett will inquire at ECTC to see if a report can be generated.**

**Lisa Ryan mentioned that print on the schedule for the SEAT bus is very small and difficult to read and that the bus stops for SEAT are not marked. Lisa is to speak to Ed Haberek about possible solutions for these problems.**

**Lisa provided information on The Gatekeeper Program. The program works with volunteers from the community to identify elders at risk. Calls are made to the elders to check on them. Lisa inquired if something could be done with TRIAD to look into using a program like this to help "repeat" 911 callers from**

**elders who are simply anxious or fearful about health issues and don't know what to do so they repeatedly call 911 . Carol Umphlett will look into whether TRIAD can help.**

**Betty Croteau advised that neither she nor Maryann Bessette will be able to serve as the Commission on Aging nominating committee in 2010.**

**Motion to adjourn made by Dave Schmidt. Seconded by Toni Potter. Motion carried.**

**Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.**

**NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, December 2, 2009 at 4:00 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen Hawthorn".

**Karen Hawthorn  
Secretary**