

**COMMISSION ON AGING  
REGULAR MEETING  
August 5, 2009**

**STONINGTON HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING COMMUNITY ROOM**

The regular meeting of the Commission on Aging was held on August 5, 2009 in the Human Services Building Community Room. Members present were: Maryann Bessette, Betty Croteau, Robert Elmer, Karen Hawthorn, Toni Potter, Lisa Ryan, David Schmidt, and Jennifer Young. Also attending: Beth Stewart, Director, Stonington Human Services, Carol Umphlett Agent For The Elderly, Stonington Human Services. Unable to attend were: Stacy Cassata, Kathleen Crockford, Virginia Turek, and Billie Ward.

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

The meeting was called to order by Robert Elmer at 4:04 p.m.

Minutes of the June 3, 2009 meeting were presented. Motion to accept minutes and place on file made by Maryann Bessette. Seconded by Betty Croteau. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report was presented by Jennifer Young. The following amounts are available for use: Postage: \$2315.00; Reproduction & Printing: \$1,100.00; Program Expenses: \$2140.00 for a budget total of \$5,555.38. Motion to accept report and place on file made by Lisa Ryan. Seconded by David Schmidt. Motion carried.

Carol Umphlett, Agent For the Elderly, Stonington Human Services reported that the Renter's Rebate Program has had 176 applications. The ECTC Transportation Report for January to June 2009 (when Stonington began participating in the service): 33 trips provided with a total of 5 cancellations; Last Quarter (April to June) 25 trips provided with a total of 3 cancellations. Carol also reported that the TRIAD Conference will be on October 15 at Central Connecticut State University. Carol distributed the Stonington Human Services Senior Satisfaction Survey Results which were tabled for discussion in September.

Lisa Ryan, legislative liaison for the Stonington COA, reported that a bill was introduced on June 25, 2009 for Medicare to cover the cost of adult day care services. Lisa also reported that the Long-Term Care Advisory Council opposes cuts to the following programs: 1) CT Home Care Program for Elders; 2) Rembursement rates to providers of long term care; 3) Co-payments for dually-eligible individuals; 4) Definition of Medical Necessity; 5) State Agency Funding for the Long-Term Care Ombudsman and the Connecticut

Commission on Aging; 6) And a number of programs including dental coverage, transportation, housing and ConnPACE. Lisa provided a report that Gov. Rell has announced that by September 1, 2009, Connecticut will be the first state in the nation to have a statewide Emergency Notification System (ENS) that allows use of the 9-1-1 system to spread word of dangerous weather, missing persons, natural disasters and other crises to residents all over the state.

June Strunk, Vice President of PNC Board and liaison to the Stonington Commission on Aging, reported that in May and June the PNC transportation program provided rides averaging upwards of 500-600 rides per month. 70% were rides for medical appointments, (half of which were rides to Westerly Adult Day Services), and the rest were for lunches or other social activities.

Regarding payment for use of space at the new Robert A. Granato Senior Center, June reported that, "it is very important the use of the space at the Robert A. Granato Senior Center does not violate any provision or restriction set forth by the grant which provided the funds to build the Center. As per information received by George R. Sylvestre, Director of Administrative Services, with respect to the space available at the Robert A. Granato Senior Center, the Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center (PNC) can choose to charge for the space provided that the funds received are used exclusively to offset operations of the space. Instructors who use/rent the space can also make a profit."

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Carol Umphlett proposed that the television and Wii gaming system purchased to use for senior activities be given for use at Edythe K. Richmond. Motion to accept proposal by Lisa Ryan. Seconded by Toni Potter. Motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Beth Stewart, Director of Stonington Human Services, reported that she will meet with Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center Director, Vicki Anderson, on Monday, August 10 to discuss the use of the new Robert A. Granato Senior Center and senior programming. They will also discuss how to avoid duplication of programming.

Jennifer Young announced that she will be moving at the end of August and will continue to attend COA meetings as a liaison of the COMO but will be unable to continue in the position as Treasurer. Nominating committee for that office will be Maryann Bessette, Betty Croteau and Toni Potter.

**Lisa Ryan distributed a brochure from Our Shoreline Community Association (OSCA) a non-profit membership association, designed to enrich the lives of seniors in Mystic (both Groton & Stonington side), Noank, Groton Long Point and Mumford Cove, CT. With guidance, neighbors help other neighbors stay in their own homes.**

**Motion to adjourn made by Maryann Bessette. Seconded by Betty Croteau.  
Motion carried.**

**Meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.**

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

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Karen Hawthorn  
Secretary**