

**COMMISSION ON AGING
REGULAR MEETING
February 3, 2010**

STONINGTON HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING COMMUNITY ROOM

The regular meeting of the Commission on Aging was held on February 3, 2010 in the Human Services Building Community Room. Members present were: Maryann Bessette, Betty Croteau, Karen Hawthorn, Lisa Ryan and Jennifer Young. Also attending: Beth Stewart, Director, Stonington Human Services and Carol Umphlett, Agent for the Elderly, Stonington Human Services. Unable to attend were: Stacy Cassata, Kathleen Crockford, Toni Potter, Billie Ward and Virginia Turek.

Guests attending: June Strunk, Vice President of PNC Board and George Brennan

Late Arrivals: Robert Elmer 4:40 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Lisa Ryan at 4:00 p.m.

Minutes of the January 6, 2009 meeting were presented. Motion to accept amended minutes reflecting December Treasurer's report and place on file made by Maryann Bessette. Seconded by Lisa Ryan. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report for December 2009 was presented by Lisa Ryan. The following amounts are available for use: Postage: \$2,315; Repro and Printing: \$1,100; Program: \$1,999.55 for a budget total of \$5,414.55. There is \$00.30 in the Postage Due Account and \$1,303.34 in the Permit Imprint Account. Treasurer's Report for January 2010 was also presented by Lisa Ryan. The following amounts are available for use: Postage: \$1,875; Repro and Printing: \$1,100; Program: \$1,999.55 for a budget total of \$4,974.55. There is \$00.30 in the Postage Due Account and \$1,303.34 in the Permit Imprint Account. Beth Stewart reported that \$440 were spent in postage account for a mass mailing of fliers for Joe Courtney's visit. Motion to accept and place on file by Jennifer Young. Seconded by Bob Elmer.

Jennifer Young reported that AARP is offering free tax preparation at the COMO beginning February 4. She added that the COMO has ended the congregate meal program at its site.

Carol Umphlett reported that 90% of the cases she dealt with was the quarterly Choices report, issues with Medicare Part D Rx Plan, ConnPace, QMB/SLMB. QMB/SLMB expanded its limits by almost \$1000 and pays gaps in Medicare.

June Strunk, Vice President of the PNC Board, reported that the 2010 Membership fees for the PNC are as follows: Senior: \$15; Adult \$18; Family \$35; Business \$100. Membership is not required for services. The PNC congregate lunch program served 209 meals to 50 seniors during December. Transportation for December: 56 seniors served with 50 being Stonington residents. PNC provided 566 one-way rides. 84 were for medical appointments; 261 were for PNC congregate lunches and senior activities and 151 were to Adult Day Center of Westerly. Seniors receiving Christmas Food Baskets: 114. 38 were seniors from Stonington. June reported that the PNC is offering the following senior programs: Senior Stretch Class on Tuesdays and Fridays (10 attending); Line Dancing Thursdays (30 attending); Tai Chi; Wii Bowling (2 teams beginning with 8 per team); Foot Clinic (not held in December) usually 45 attending.

Lisa Ryan inquired from June Strunk if approval had been given by the PNC board for the PNC food bags to have informational fliers about services available to seniors. The PNC board gave permission and Stonington Human Services will be creating the fliers for the food bags.

June also reported that the PNC will be applying for a vehicle grant and it is due March 25. Lisa Ryan inquired whether PNC will be a "stop" for the SEAT bus. June said that it can be but will have to inquire whether that has been communicated to SEAT.

Lisa Ryan presented printed information on the the 2011 Federal Budget which was introduced on February 2 by President Obama. The information reflected on how the budget would effect the state of Connecticut – not necessarily seniors.

NEW BUSINESS

Beth Stewart shared that she is part of the Board of Education Strategic Planning Committee. She posed the question: If we were to start over with education (budget notwithstanding) and we had all the time and money we needed, how would you use it in schools? Various answers were given such as: 1) continue music and the arts; 2) encourage more students to take up a vocational/technical education; 3) continue to offer foreign languages and 4) "go back to basics".

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

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, March 3, 2010 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

**Karen Hawthorn
Secretary**