

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

STONINGTON HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING COMMUNITY ROOM

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

Guests attending: June Strunk, Vice President of PNC Board

Late Arrivals: Toni Potter 4:08 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Lisa Ryan at 4:03 p.m.

Minutes of the February 3, 2009 meeting were presented. Motion to accept amended minutes reflecting that membership to the PNC is not required to receive services and place on file made by Maryann Bessette. Seconded by Toni Potter. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report for February 2010 was presented by Toni Potter. The following amounts are available for use: Postage: \$1,875.00; Repro and Printing: \$1,100; Program: \$1,960.19 for a budget total of \$4,935.19. There is \$00.30 in the Postage Due Account and \$1,303.34 in the Permit Imprint Account. The \$36.00 in Event Consumables is a reflection of monies received from RMS refurbished cell phones.

Jennifer Young reported that AARP tax program the COMO is now midway through the season. She reported the following programs at the COMO: Adult Tennis to begin soon; Pottery; Creative Writing; Blood Drive to begin Week of March 8 from 1:30 to 5:45 appointments to be made by calling 1-800-Red Cross. Jenn reported that there will be a Green Fair on April 10 featuring solar energy ideas, composting, hybrid cars and organics. The winter Farmer's Market runs at the COMO through April 24 and then moves to the docks.

Jenn reported that the COMO will have a fundraiser "Tip the Staff" night on March 29, 2010 at the Pizza Place in Westerly. It will feature "celebrity waiters" from the COMO from 5:00-9:00 p.m.

Carol Umphlett reported that Energy Assistance is coming to a close as far as deliverable fuel (3/15/10). Old bills can be submitted through the end of March. She will be receiving Renter's Rebate training dates for May.

June Strunk, Vice President of the PNC Board, reported that congregate lunch program served 180 meals to 41 seniors during January. Transportation for January: 62 seniors served with 50 being Stonington residents. PNC provided 640 one-way rides. 25 were for medical appointments; 293 were for PNC congregate lunches and senior activities and 152 were to Adult Day Center of Westerly. Other rides were for shopping, pharmacy, banking, etc. Foot Clinic returned in February but was cancelled due to snow. An average of 6 patients will be seen weekly with appointments booked one month in advance. Continuing Programs: Senior Stretch; Art; Line Dancing; Writing; Wii Bowling; Game Day. New in April: Live Well Workshop: chronic Disease Self-Management Program sponsored by the Connecticut Department of Social Services: Aging Service Division and the Connecticut Department of Health. It is a six week program; Introduction to Meditation. June delivered invitations to the Commission members to attend the PNC Giving and Growing Gala on March 27.

Lisa Ryan reported that the Connecticut Legislature was back in session on February 3. She presented printed information on two raised bills: Raised Bill 5112: An Act Reducing the Individual Contribution Under The State-Funded Home-Care Program For The Elderly and Raised Bill 5111: An Act concerning The Alzheimer's Respite Care Program.

NEW BUSINESS

Stacy Cassata stated that she had been giving thought to the purpose of the Commission on Aging and she knew that SALT and TRIAD had a similar discussion. Stacy questioned whether the COA could come together with SALT and TRIAD to accomplish a project or goal. Several suggestions were made concerning how this could be done i.e. using the high school for events for seniors such as a community fair offering identity theft seminar, senior I.D. cards, vendors offering senior services. It was suggested that SALT and TRIAD be invited to meet to discuss their interest in joining to organize such an event, how to promote and market the event, secure the date and high school space etc.

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

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, April 7, 2010 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Hawthorn

**Karen Hawthorn
Secretary**