

**COMMISSION ON AGING
REGULAR MEETING
November 2, 2011**

STONINGTON HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING COMMUNITY ROOM

The regular meeting of the Commission on Aging was held on November 2, 2011 in the Human Services Building Community Room. Members present were: Maryann Bessette, R.J. Connelly, III, Betty Croteau, Robert Elmer, Karen Hawthorn, Toni Potter, and Lisa Ryan and Billie Ward. Also attending: Carol Umphlett Agent For The Elderly, Stonington Human Services. Unable to attend: George Brennan, Stacy Cassata, and Betty Henry.

Guests: 23 Stonington High School Citizens in Action Students.

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

Minutes from the October meeting were presented. Motion to accept was made by Robert Elmer. Seconded by Toni Potter. Motion Carried.

Treasurer's Report for August was presented by Billie Ward. The following accounts have available funds: Postage: \$810.00 Available, Reproduction & Printing: \$600.00, Program Expenses: \$2,200 Available, Total Funds: \$3,610.00. Motion to accept was made by Maryann Bessette. Seconded by Toni Potter. Motion carried. Treasurer's Report for September was also presented by Billie Ward. The following accounts have available funds: Postage: \$590.00, Reproduction and Printing: \$600.00, Program Expenses: \$2,200.00. Total Funds: \$3,390.00. Motion to accept Betty Croteau. Seconded by Toni Potter. Motion carried.

Carol Umphlett, Agent For the Elderly, Stonington Human Services reported that there were 631 contacts made in October; 232 were seniors. There were 669 applications taken for Energy Assistance; 471 were for seniors. There were 81 contacts regarding Medicare and 8 contacts for Social Security. There were 112 TVCCA Energy Applications and 52 were for seniors. There were 46 contacts for Medical Assistance and 28 were for seniors. Carol stated that Energy Assistance benefits are lower this year with the maximum basic benefit at \$255 plus a maximum crisis benefit of \$530.

Carol reported on senior activities programming on behalf of Kristen King, Human Services Coordinator. Upcoming events: November 16: AARP Safe Drivers Course; November 16: Annual conference for TRIAD in Meriden, CT; December 7: Scam Workshop at Stone Ridge (open to public).

Senior Lunch and Learn began on October 7, 2011 and 53 attended at the Mystic Aquarium. All lunches are full. Monday Lunch and a Movie began October 17, and 10 people attended. October 19: 2011 AARP Safe Drivers held at Stonington Human Services with 15 attending; October 21: 2011 Tour Boston Day Trip with 20 attending; October 26: Stone Ridge Health Fair/53 Yellow Dots were issued.

Lisa Ryan, legislative liaison for the Stonington COA, reported that at the federal proposal for a Class Act to help people set aside funds for long term care was not passed.

Correspondence:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

Reverend Kevin Reilly has submitted his application to be a member of the Stonington Commission on Aging to the First Selectman's Office and is awaiting approval.

Lisa Ryan inquired about affordable housing projects that are going on in town. The project at Greenhaven and Mary Hall Road is not affordable housing. Rt. 1 is being considered but there has been no public hearing as yet.

NEW BUSINESS

Billie Ward asked about sponsoring a seminar for caregivers about how to approach seniors about relinquishing their driver's license. Lisa Ryan has a physician in mind who might conduct the seminar and will follow up.

Motion to adjourn at 4:40 pm made by Maryann Bessette. Seconded by Betty Croteau. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

**Karen Hawthorn
Secretary**