

Town of Upton  
Council on Aging  
Upton Center, May 7, 2012

The Upton Council on Aging's regular monthly meeting was called to order at 9:00A.M. Those in attendance were: Judi Blanchard, Jen DeLuca, Jamie Gardner, Maria Griffin, , Katie Kelley, Priscilla Lukes, Bev Randazzo, and Grace Wadsworth., Holly Whalen.

The minutes from the April 2, 2012 meeting were read and accepted .

Carpet installation: the way the carpet was installed was not up to standards and will not stand up well. Only one person came to install and it took three 9 1/2 hour days. Jamie will not pay the full bill until the issue is settled. The walls and borders were painted and the columns were painted three times and will have to be done again. The kitchen and offices have not been painted because of lack of resources and time.

Regarding AA meetings at center. Jamie contacted an AA person who said he cannot be responsible for all who come to the meetings. The issue is that the meeting is unsupervised by any staff. Generally the Center is left in good condition but the lock boxes on the AC units were broken. There is concern that the Millhaus is accessible since the door opens from the Center. Jamie gave out sealed ballots for the Council to vote on whether they would support that the unsupervised AA meeting continue at the Center. Jamie supports AA but wanted a ballot for the COA members. The results were 5 No, ( the meetings should not continue unsupervised, 1 yes. Jamie will continue to explore options and get back to the Council.

Marathon Restaurant outing. Priscilla volunteered to go as a staff representative to oversee the smooth running of the outing.

Annual Barbeque on June 29. Catered by Goff's Caterer serving chicken, pulled pork, burgers. The Center is responsible for desserts. It will cost between \$500 and \$600. Limited to 50 people. Marie and Priscilla and Judi volunteered to help.

No meeting of the COA in June or July. The next meeting will be August 6.

The Upton Woman's Club gave a generous donation to the Center of \$600 in the form of \$10 gift cards to Rite Aide, CVS and Walgreens. Since it is illegal to give seniors money to pay for medications, the gift cards can be given to help needy seniors for whatever they need.

Social Service Update from Holly: Fuel assistance not as busy as last year because of slight increase in the economy and the mild winter; visited apartment tenants to inform them of available services and to introduce herself. Holly is planning home visitation in the Spring and a Health Fair in the future.

There is a Social Service Bulletin Board near the Bingo equipment that Holly would encourage people to read. The staff encourages the COA members to let them know of anyone in the town who needs help because of loss of job, low income. There is a little know Trust Fund in the town to help people in need. Jamie is the first person to interview anyone in need and to make a recommendation the Board.

Center Attendance. Between 50 and 75 people come into the center daily.

New Millhaus Manger, Judy, who is working well with the Center staff

Revised House Rules will be posted regarding appropriate behavior and language. COA Board members are expected to be professional at all times. If there is a problem, Jamie encourages the person to get a Staff member involved. Also, packets of welcome are available for new comers, with brochures, house rules and bus rules.

Update on Bus. A new windshield is needed. There is some discussion about opening up the use of the bus for trips other than medical appointments. There will be a priority for medical appointments but other appointment, ie, hair; more grocery trips will be considered.

Friends of the Center usually gave about \$1600 for postage for the monthly newsletter. The Center paid for all the other expenses for the monthly mailing. Because the Friends are dormant, legally they cannot raise money. If the Friends become defunct, the money in there treasury will revert to the Center.

Luncheon menu will not be included in newsletter but is available at the Center, at Millhaus and at Coach Road.

Open House. Jamie is not sure the Center will be ready for a Fall program. If this program is not run in the fall, there will be something else planned for mid week. It is difficult to ask staff to come in on a weekend. Jamie, at certain times of the years, puts in 60-90 hour weeks to work on reports and budgets.

Formula Grant for each senior of\$6.25. It starts in July but the money is not received until later.

Podiatrist. The number of clients is about half of what it was in the past because the Doctor does not take some of the insurances. If the list goes below 5 or 6, the service will be canceled.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Kelley  
Secretary