

**Council on Aging Board Meeting
December 14, 2009
Reading Senior Center Game Room**

Present: Stacey Bertocchi, Sally Hoyt, Steve Oston, Erica Deane, Margaret Havey, George Lonergan, Carol Oniskey, Dawn Folopoulos (Staff).

Excused Absence: Gina Nelson, Marguerite Bosnian, Carole Scrima

Call to Order: 7:02 PM.

Minutes: Approved for November 10, 2009.

Administrator's Report: Approved for October and November.

- The Administrator updated the Council on the potential donation of funds from the Reading Older Patrons of America, a local senior social group which is dissolving.

Financial Report: Approved.

- The Council voted 7-0 to approve a motion to purchase a new dry erase white board for the Senior Center with funds in the amount of \$269.99 to be withdrawn from the Burbank Trust Fund. The current board has aged beyond its useful life.

Old Business:

- After a lengthy discussion, the Council decided to defer activities on the Senior Discount Directory. The current economic climate seems to be discouraging local businesses from openly giving discounts to seniors. At future meetings, a certain amount of time will be devoted to conceptualizing COA projects that will benefit our senior population.
- George provided us with an update on his activities to investigate bringing a Lifelong Learning program to Reading. Tufts University is apparently interested in expanding to locations other than Medford. George has had preliminary conversations to determine the suitability of the Library and the Senior Center. Dawn will contact the head of the Tufts program to get further information and speak with Reading officials to see what constraints may be present.
- Council members shared their experiences from the delivery of the Thanksgiving Hot Meals; the Administrator provided copies of thank-you notes from grateful clients. Plans were also made with participating Council members for the Christmas Hot Meal distribution on December 24.

New Business:

- Stacey was selected as Reading's "Volunteer of the Week" for November 26; an article plus picture appeared in the local Reading Advocate newspaper.
- Carol Oniskey was appointed as COA representative to the Mystic Valley Elder Services Board and is currently working on fundraising for MVES. She will send out flyers regarding an upcoming MVES dinner plus show.
- The Elder/Human Services Division 2008 Annual Report will be reviewed at the next COA meeting.

Adjournment: 8:25 PM.

Next meeting: January 20, 2010.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Oston, Secretary