

ORANGE COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**ACTION AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT**

Meeting Date: August 18, 2009

Action Agenda  
Item No. 6-b

**SUBJECT:** Friends Funds To Continue Seymour Center Evening Hours

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**DEPARTMENT:** Aging

**PUBLIC HEARING:** (Y/N)

N

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

Friends Letter of Commitment

**INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Jerry M. Passmore, Aging Director  
Janice Tyler, Sr. Centers Administrator  
(919) 245-2000

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**PURPOSE:** To approve the acceptance of \$4,576 from the Friends of the Robert and Pearl Seymour Center to maintain the current evening service hours as existed in FY 2008-09 by employing non-permanent staff.

**BACKGROUND:** In order to reduce County expenses as part of the FY 2009-10 budget preparation process, it was recommended by Department on Aging staff and adopted by the BOCC to reduce evening hours at the Seymour Center from four to two nights per week like the new Central Orange Senior Center that opened January 2009. This budget impact reduced non-permanent personnel costs by \$4,370 with the Seymour Center being closed two evenings, Monday and Wednesday, from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. beginning in September. (It should be noted that no reductions in budget or operating hours were proposed or approved for the Central Orange Senior Center for FY2009-10.)

The Friends of the Robert and Pearl Seymour Center reviewed the programs, center classes, and meetings held in the evenings and felt it important to maintain the four evenings per week which are Monday through Thursday. The group felt that the community was accustomed to the four evening hours, especially those who pay a membership for the Seymour Center fitness studio. The Friends wished to maintain the use by aging boomers who work during the day and only have access to the Seymour Center in the evenings. Thus, the Friends Board of Directors approved designating \$4,576 from the group's 2009-10 budget to the Orange County Department on Aging to continue to employ a non-permanent employee to cover the Monday and Wednesday evenings that would be closed at the Seymour Center beginning in September. (see attachment)

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** There are no County funds required. Funds collected from the Friends of the Seymour Center will cover the Department on Aging's employing a non-permanent employee to cover Monday and Wednesday evenings per week. The Department on Aging would bill the Friends either on a monthly basis or quarterly basis.

**RECOMMENDATION(S):** The Interim Manager recommends that the Board consider the following: (1) accept the funds from the Friends of the Robert and Pearl Seymour Center to employ a non-permanent employee to maintain the Monday and Wednesday evening service hours at the Seymour Center and (2) amend the Department on Aging budget with a \$4,576 increase in the senior center operations account.



Robert and Pearl Seymour Center, Inc.

June 17, 2009

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Mr. Jerry Passmore, Director  
Orange County Department on Aging  
P.O. Box 8181  
600 Highway 86 North  
Hillsborough, NC 27278

Dear Mr. Passmore:

At the April 19, 2009, meeting of the Friends Board of the Robert and Pearl Seymour Center, Ms. Janice Tyler noted that funds would likely to be required to keep the Center open certain evenings during the 2009-10 year. The Board approved a motion by Mr. Steven Lackey, Friends vice president, allocating \$4576 as a contingency expenditure to meet budget needs arising in the next fiscal year such as maintaining Seymour open hours in the evening.

Sincerely,

Bobbie Boyd Lubker, President  
Friends Board of the Robert and Pearl Seymour Center

Cc: Janice Tyler, Administrator, Seymour Center  
Steven R. Lackey, Vice President, Friends Board