

NEWTOWN COMMISSION ON AGING  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, December 20, 2021  
Newtown Municipal Building, 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT 06470  
Called to order at 3:00pm

*THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE COMMISSION ON AGING*

**Present:** Anne Rothstein, Larry Passaro, Claire Theune, Barbara Bloom, Nicole Comporeale, Trisha Gogliettino

**Present via Zoom:** Lia Levitt, Larry Passaro, Trisha Gogliettino, Joanne Albanesi, Xiao Han

**Absent:** Ruby Ryles, LeReine Frampton, Curt Symes

**Also Present:** Director of Human Services Natalie Jackson, Jennifer Nash Assistant Director of CH Booth Library and Anna Wiedemann.

**Public Comments** - None

**Minutes** – C. Theune moved to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2021 meeting, B. Bloom seconded with the correction that Lia Levitt was NOT absent and present via teleconference. All in favor with the correction.

**Chair Report** – A. Rothstein thanked everyone for their work on behalf of Newtown Seniors and looked forward to the coming year as they work together to continue to serve those who use the services and attend programs.

**Vice Chair Report** – No report

**Director of Human Services** – N. Jackson reviewed her report (Attachment A).

**Treasurer's Report** – L. Passaro reviewed his report (Attachment B). C. Theune moved to accept and move the treasurer's report to audit. B. Bloom seconded, all in favor.

B. Bloom moved to add discussion and action for the replacement of TV in the multipurpose room to the agenda. C. Theune seconded, all in favor

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Update on Transportation Survey** – N. Jackson reported that they received 427 through Survey Monkey and 50+ paper surveys. N. Simpson is working on putting the paper surveys in and then WestCOG will work to analyze the data.

**Election of Officers** – The nominating committee proposed Anne Rothstein for Chair, Barbara Bloom for Vice Chair and Larry Passaro for Treasurer. No other nominations were made. C.

Theune moved to have Anne Rothstein for Chair, Barbara Bloom for Vice Chair and Larry Passaro for Treasurer. J. Albanesi seconded, all in favor.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

*Cooperative Project with SC and CC* – The Community Center would like to have a pottery class available to members of the senior center. The class would be for about 10 people. The Community Center is looking for a contribution from the COA gift fund in the amount of \$225 to cover the materials for the class. There will still be a \$20 charge to seniors for a 6 to 8 week course. B. Bloom moved to contribute \$225 for materials for the pottery class, L. Passaro second, all in favor.

*Discussion and action for replacement of TV in Multipurpose room* – The TV that is there now is too small. They do a lot of presentations and they are using the TV for their presentation. They would like to get an 85” TV to replace it and move the smaller one to the other side of the room for the pool players to enjoy. L. Passaro moved to authorize up to \$2500 for the purchase and installation of the new TV as well as moving the smaller TV in the multipurpose room. J. Albanesi seconded, all in favor.

*Approval of meeting dates for 2022* – L. Passaro moved to approve the meeting schedule for 2022 (Attachment C). J. Albanesi seconded, all in favor.

*Member comments* – C. Symes was not at the meeting due to an illness. A. Rothstein wished him a speedy recovery and thanked him for his service to the seniors.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:35pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Arlene Miles, Clerk



A

## Department of Human Services

*Supporting a high quality of life for the Newtown community through services, programs and information that promote mental, physical and social well-being.*

### Commission on Aging Report: December 20, 2021

Dear Members of the COA,

The last few weeks in Human Services have been busy as we wrapped up the holiday programs for our residents in need this year. In partnership with the Newtown Fund, 92 households received holiday gifts and aid this season. In light of the ongoing pandemic, gifts were again delivered directly to recipients from donors in lieu of the traditional "depot day". While we miss some of the magic of the traditions that have long stood we are grateful through our partnerships that the giving continues and we have not faltered in being able to meet needs in our community.

This month we were also able to have the annual Craft Boutique return to the Senior Center. Through the incredible hard work, talent, and dedication of the Senior Center Crafters over \$5,000 was raised this year for the COA Gift Fund. The Crafters spent countless hours creating & crafting and then staffing numerous "Pop-up Boutiques" at the Community Center, the full day Senior Center Boutique on December 4<sup>th</sup>, and the Holiday Open house at the Center on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

Additional key updates to highlight include:

**Transportation:** the survey launched at the end of October to assess the transportation needs of our community's seniors was extended to mid-December. At close we had 472 surveys entered online through Survey Monkey and are now in process of entering the data from 50+ paper responses into the system. WestCOG will then be working to analyze the data. I look forward to continuing to report out on the results and discussions around next steps as the information evolves. In other news, I am thrilled to report that Newtown was awarded one of the very competitive 5310 grants for a new 10 passenger, 2 wheelchair places van. More to come on the timing. Thank you to John Boccuzzi from FONS for his work on the grant with me, and HARTransportation for their consult.

**Lunch Program:** The congregate meal program has continued over this month, two days a week. The Senior Center has continued to cover the cost of the meals for 12 members per day as we are in the final stages of finalizing the Memorandum of Understanding with Whitsons, the meal provider, WCAAA, and CW Resources. We hope to have meals back at full capacity, 4 days a week by end of January, following the next WCAAA Board Meeting. We will be pausing meals in January until the funding is in place.

**A facilities update:** Our facilities manager continues to work to secure an electrician and plumber for the dishwasher installation. As soon as those contractors are secured we are ready to order the dishwasher. The dishes purchased through the COA have been delivered.

Energy Assistance applications continue. Residents who qualify for this aid can reach out to Jackie or Alyssa at 203-270-4330 to complete their application. Finally, the Salvation Army had 2 consecutively successful bell ringing weekends, December 10, 11, 17, & 18, despite some cold and wet weather! The generosity of Newtown, neighbors helping neighbors, is always a special thing to be a part of this time of year.

I want to wish you all a very happy holiday. However you celebrate I hope it includes peace and good health!

Respectfully submitted,

*Natalie*

Natalie Jackson, LCSW

Director, Newtown Human Services

**People that were active between 11/15/2021 and 12/17/2021**

<b>Age Range as of 12/17/2021</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Ages 55-59	21	1.6%
Ages 60-64	92	6.9%
Ages 65-69	215	16.1%
Ages 70-74	271	20.3%
Ages 75-79	268	20.1%
Ages 80-84	210	15.8%
Ages Below 55	9	0.7%
Ages Over 85	246	18.5%
Unknown	3	0.2%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1335</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>City/Town</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent</b>
In Town	1127	84.5%
Out of Town	206	15.5%

**Current Members:**

<b>Residents</b>	<b>511</b>
<b>Non Residents</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>582</b>
<b>New Memberships for the year</b>	<b>188</b>
<b>Renewals for the year</b>	<b>394</b>

**Event Statistics from 11/15/2021 to 12/17/2021**

**Filters:**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Duplicated</b>	<b>Unduplicated</b>
F - Class/Workshop	117	60
F - Health/Fitness	573	98
F - Nutrition	98	36
F - Rec./Entertain	71	13
F - Social Activity/Event	238	95
F - Socializing	115	49
F - Special Events	141	76
F - Special Groups	30	14
F - Trips	28	28
P - Social Activity/Event	2	2
<b>Total Event Signins</b>	<b>1413</b>	<b>231</b>

# Event Occurrences from 11/15/2021 to 12/17/2021

Filters:

Site(s):

All

Category	Event	# of Event Hours Scheduled Unduplicated Zoom		
F - Class/Workshop	Art Class	5	10	12 NA
	Computers	5	5	5 NA
	Computers With Sean	1	4	1 NA
	Knitting	4	4	25 NA
	Memoirs Class	1	1	9 NA
	Sugar Cookie Making	1	1	10 NA
	<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>56</b>
F - Health Screenings	Blood Pressure	1	2	0 NA
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>
F - Health/Fitness	Broadway Burn	3	3	18 5
	Chair Pilates	4	4	18 not reported
	Chair Yoga	4	4	32 not reported
	Deep Stretch	4	4	8 not reported
	Flex Fit & Tone	3	3	29 not reported
	Flex, Fit & Tone	2	2	23 not reported
	Floor Yoga	9	9	18 not reported
	Line/Country Dancing	4	4	18 NA
	Move and Groove	4	4	10 NA
	Parkinson Exercise Class	1	1	2 NA
	Tai Chi	5	5	22 NA
	Zumba	5	5	19 5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>96</b>
F - Nutrition	Daily Lunch	8	8	32 NA
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>32</b>
F - Rec./Entertain	Billiards	22	22	12 NA
	Catch Phrase	4	4	0 NA
	<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>12</b>
F - Social Activity/Event	Bingo	1	1	14 NA
	Christmas Party	1	2	39 NA
	Crafts	14	28	8 NA
	Lunch and Learn	3	3	38 NA
	Ping Pong	6	6	4 NA
	Poker	5	15	8 NA
	Thanksgiving Lunch	1	0	40 NA
	<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>95</b>
F - Socializing	Socializing & Just Visiting	25	225	49 NA
	<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>49</b>
F - Special Events	Craft Fair	1	5	19 NA
	Speaker	7	8	54 NA

	Speaker AM	3	9	22 NA
	<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>74</b>
F - Special Groups				
	COA Roundtable	1	1	1 NA
	Parkinson Support Group	1	1	4 NA
	Womens Discussion Group	5	65	9 NA
	<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>14</b>
F - Trips				
	Newtown police dept tour	1	1	28 NA
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>28</b>
P - Social Activity/Event				
	Mens Breakfast	1	2	2 NA
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>231</b>

B

COA/SENIOR SERVICES GIFT FUND

RECEIPTS/DISBURSEMENTS	C/D	C/R	FRANK KNOTTS TRUST FUND	BALANCE
Beginning Balance				39,338.65
Qtrly Distribution- Knotts Trust- 200-16				40,044.40
Ck #45928- Anna Wiedemann-Reim for Gift Card for Zach Macey & Ice Cream	(121.38)		705.75	39,923.02
Donation for Suicide Prevention- Archdeacon Family Foundation		525.00		40,448.02
Donation from J. Albanesi for flowers for Dan & Anna Wiedemann event- 200-31		200.00		40,648.02
Ck #46532- Anna Wiedemann- Reim for thank you dinner for crafters	(279.49)			40,368.53
Ck #46747-John Voket-Grandparent Sock Hop	(150.00)			40,218.53
Bazaar -Donation 220-15		218.50		40,437.03
Aug P-Card- Caraluzzi's- Flowers for Anna Wiedemann event	(200.00)			40,237.03
Bazaar-Donation 220-18		200.00		40,437.03
Qtrly Distribution Knotts Trust- 200-91			705.75	41,142.78
Ck #47332- Planters Choice- Red Maple Tree- for recognition for those who died from suicide	(567.00)			40,575.78
Bazaar- Donation 220-19		190.00		40,765.78
Bazaar- Donation 220-22		579.00		41,344.78
Ck #47661- Anna Wiedemann- Reim for Bob Sharpe Plaque	(15.95)			41,328.83
Donation-Bazaar 220-23		1,159.75		42,488.58
Donation- Archdeacon Family Foundation 220-24		5,000.00		47,488.58
Less unspent Approvals				(201.87)
Sr lunch balance				(700.00)
Purchase of dishes				
Available balance				\$ 46,586.71





COMMISSION ON AGING  
NEWTOWN SENIOR CENTER  
8 PRIMROSE STREET, NEWTOWN, CT 06470

**2022 MEETING SCHEDULE**

Meetings are held the third Monday of the month

January 24, 2022 (forth Monday) – 3:00pm

February 28, 2022 (fourth Monday) – 3:00pm

March 21, 2022 –4:00pm

April 18, 2022 –4:00pm

May 16, 2022 –4:00pm

June 20, 2022 –4:00pm

July 18, 2022 –4:00pm

August 15, 2022 - 4:00pm

September 19, 2022 –4:00pm

October 17, 2022 –4:00pm

November 21, 2022–3:00pm

December 19, 2022 –3:00pm

January 23, 2023 (fourth Monday) – 3:00pm