

NEWTOWN COMMISSION ON AGING
Regular Meeting
Monday, February 27, 2023
Newtown Senior Center, 8 Simpson Street, Newtown, CT 06470
Called to order at 4:00pm

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE COMMISSION ON AGING

Present: Barbara Bloom, Claire Theune, Bill Darrin, Xiao Han, Micheal Stern, Judit Destefano(4:12)

Present via Zoom: Anne Rothstein, LeReine Frampton, Tricia Gogliettino

Absent: Lia Levitt, Nicole Camporeale

Also Present: Director of Human Services Natalie Jackson, Director of Nunnawauk Meadows Mary Salley

Public Comment –None

Minutes – B. Darrin moved to approve the minutes of the 1/23/23 meeting. C. Theune seconded, all in favor.

Chair Report– The Friends of the Library will be having a spelling bee fund raiser for the Library. A. Rothstein will forward details when they are available.

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

Treasurer's Report – B. Bloom moved to send the Treasurer's report (Attachment B) to audit. B. Darrin seconded, all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

AARP grant opportunity – The grant is due 3/15/23. A pickle ball court and a fitness trail at FFH were the idea's discussed. They can ask for \$25,000.

Member Comments – B. Darrin will be doing a lunch and learn on March 3 on Critical Race Theory.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:26pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Arlene Miles, Clerk

COA/SENIOR SERVICES GIFT FUND

DATE	RECEIPTS/DISBURSEMENTS	C/D	C/R	FRANK KNOTTS TRUST FUND	BALANCE
7/1/22	Beginning Balance				42,131.47
7/21/22	Lions Bleeker- Pizza for Presentation Program by Zack & Larry	(170.74)			41,960.73
7/25/22	July P-Card- Holy Cow- Ice Cream for Trivia with Zack & Larry	(56.35)			41,904.38
7/25/22	July P-Card- Amazon- Replacement bingo cards	(44.97)			41,859.41
7/25/22	July P-Card- Amazon- Bingo set & display Board	(92.05)			41,767.36
8/2/2022	Qtrly Distribution Knotts Trust 200-12			767.00	42,534.36
10/7/2022	Ck #51758- Newtown Comm. Center- Senior Pottery Class	(225.00)			42,309.36
10/28/2022	Qtrly Distribution Knotts Trust 200-77			767.00	43,076.36
10/31/2022	Deficiency payment for Knotts Trust 12/31/21 200-85			650.10	43,726.46
12/23/2022	Donation- Bazaar 220-15				44,955.46
12/31/2022	Nov P-Card- Lion's Bleeker- Pizza Lunch-Senior Center	(45.52)	1,229.00		44,909.94
1/12/2023	Ck #52986- Bee Publishing-craft fair ads	(121.60)			44,788.34
1/18/2023	Donation- In memory of Larry Passaro- 220-15A		1,000.00		45,788.34
1/30/2023	Qtrly Distribution Knotts Trust 200-160			590.00	46,378.34
1/31/2023	Dec P-Card- Restaurant Depot- Food for Holiday party	(250.00)			46,128.34
1/31/2023	Dec P-Card- Lions Bleeker-Lunches for craft boutique volunteers	(51.61)			46,076.73
1/31/2023	Donation- In memory of Larry Passaro- 220-22		100.00		46,176.73



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: February 27, 2023

Hello Members of the COA,

While the snow may finally be coming our way this week, the Department of Human Services is already springing forward! We have begun planning for the return of our *Spring Fling* in partnership with Parks & Recreation and we are looking for new and creative ways to kick on the 23/24 membership year at the Senior Center.

Following up on two important areas from last month's meeting and report:

Senior Center Meal Program:

The congregate meal program, with new partner Nick's Catering, has been a great success thus far. The Memorandum of Understanding between WCAAA, CW Solutions and Newtown was approved and signed by all parties at the start of February.

With the new MOU in place we are able to keep the diner cost to only \$5, with the reminder subsidized by the WCAAA grant. The total price per meal is approximately \$10, including supplies. Currently meals are offered Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. Allowing Thursdays and Fridays to be open for special events and Lunch and Learn presentations. Senior Center staff continue to pick up the food, manage lunch reservations and check-in, and serve. Unfortunately we may be facing some changes in the program in the coming months due to limits in the grant funding. This may look like less reservations available or a decrease in days we can serve. We are working with area Senior Centers and will be advocating with the partners involved in hopes to keep our numbers as close to what we have built since beginning with Nicks. I will continue to update the COA on this.

ARPA Funds:

As reported last month the Department of Human Services has been very fortunate to receive some of the American Rescue Plan Funds to assist in these areas:

- Housing Stabilization
- ALICE Enrichment Funds
- Tutoring Services
- Transportation- replacement of the 16 passenger van to be shared with the Community Center

The exciting updates in this area include the estimated arrival of the bus to now be summer and the tutoring program inquires now rolling in—thanks to the support of the BOE.

**additional note- the smaller 10-passenger van awarded to Newtown through the DOT 5310 grant does not have an expected arrival date. While the initial delivery date was spring of 2022, the current chip shortage has impacted delivery and to date there is not a new estimate for arrival.*

While spring may be on the mind of many of us, in all seriousness the winter is not yet behind us and energy costs are a concern. Operation Fuel, a program that provides emergency assistance, is putting a pause on the program for March after a significant demand for energy assistance this year. It will also be reducing the amount of assistance it provides so that it can help more families.

The nonprofit organization said it will resume providing energy assistance on April 3, but will reduce energy grants from \$1,000 per household to \$500, to serve more households. A news release from Operation Fuel said it has provided nearly \$6 million in energy assistance to more than 6,000 households. Operation Fuel said it will provide energy assistance from April 3 through

May 31, or whenever funds run out, whichever is first. Operation Fuel is an important resource that can be accessed after a resident uses all of their Energy Assistance benefit through Community Action. With Operation Fuel on hold in March DHS expects to see an increase in requests for assistance to our office/the Town. We will continue to work to meet the needs as best we can, as always with the help and generosity of our charitable community partners.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie

Natalie Jackson, LCSW
Director, Newtown Human Services

People that were active between 01/24/2023 and 02/24/2023
Filters:

Age: >=0
Site(s): All

Age Range as of 02/24/2023	Count	Percent
Ages 55-59	2	0.8%
Ages 60-64	17	6.5%
Ages 65-69	46	17.5%
Ages 70-74	73	27.8%
Ages 75-79	51	19.4%
Ages 80-84	42	16.0%
Ages Below 55	1	0.4%
Ages Over 85	31	11.8%
Totals	263	100%

Curent Members

Resident	548
Non Resident	114
Total	662

New Members Since July 2022

231

Event Statistics from 01/24/2023 to 02/24/2023**Filters:**

Category	Duplicated	Unduplicated	Hours
F - Class/Workshop	114	36	137
F - Health Screenings	6	6	14.5
F - Health/Fitness	895	147	895
F - Nutrition	211	56	211
F - Rec./Entertain	109	16	545
F - Social Activity/Event	315	105	524
F - Socializing	178	43	1515.97
F - Special Events	161	50	191
F - Special Groups	45	28	48
F - Trips	28	25	69.17
Total Event Signins	2062	263	4150.64

Event Occurrences from 01/24/2023 to 02/24/2023

Filters:

Category	Event	# of Event Hours Sch Unduplicated		
F - Class/Workshop	Art Class	5	10	9
	Knitting	5	5	19
	Spanish	5	5	10
	Technology with Zack	4	6	2
	Total	19	26	36
F - Health Screenings	Blood Pressure	1	2.416667	6
	Total	1	2.416667	6
F - Health/Fitness	Broadway Burn	3	3	30
	Chair Pilates	5	5	26
	Chair Yoga	5	5	36
	Deep Stretch	5	5	20
	Flex, Fit & Tone	5	5	38
	Floor Yoga	9	9	38
	Line/Country Dancing	4	4	28
	Move and Groove	4	4	24
	Tai Chi	3	3	27
	Zumba	3	3	22
	Total	46	46	132
F - Nutrition	Daily Lunch	13	13	50
	Total	13	13	50
F - Rec./Entertain	Billiards	23	115	16
	Total	23	115	16
F - Social Activity/Event	Book Club	1	1	3
	Cards	20	120	6
	Lunch and Learn	6	6	35
	Poker	5	15	8
	Special Event	5	7.25	59
	Total	37	149.25	87
F - Socializing	Socializing & Just Visiting	24	204.4	43
	Total	24	204.4	43
F - Special Events	Speaker	8	10	32
	Speaker AM	6	8	27
	Total	14	18	39
F - Special Groups	Coffee & Conversation with F	1	1	15
	Silver Tones	1	2	3
	Womens Discussion Group C	3	3	15
	Total	5	6	28
F - Trips				

Tours	2	5.166667	16
Total	2	5.166667	16
 Grand Totals	 184	 585.2333	 263