

**COMMISSION ON AGING
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 15, 2017 5:00 pm
Newtown Senior Center
14 Riverside Road
Sandy Hook, CT 06482**

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

The Commission on Aging held a regular meeting on Monday, May 15, 2017 at the Senior Center, 14 Riverside Road, Sandy Hook, CT.

Call to order: 5:00 pm.

Present: Anna Wiedemann, Curt Symes, Barbara Bloom (until 5:30), John Boccuzzi, George Guidera, Margaret Imbro, Anne Rothstein, Ruby Ryles, Claire Theune, LeReine Frampton.

Absent: Mae Schmidle, Marilyn Place.

Also Present: Ann LoBosco, Officer Maryhelen McCarthy, 4 members of the public.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Ms. Bloom announced the upcoming Friends of Newtown Seniors fundraiser.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Officer Maryhelen McCarthy said June is senior abuse awareness month. She discussed a 60 page booklet that covers different ways to speak with seniors, to be shared with other police officers.

Minutes: Mr. Guidera moved to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2017 meeting. Second by Mr. Symes and unanimously approved. (Noted Ms. Wiedemann last name misspelled in April 17, 2017 minutes.)

Lisa Krauss letter of resignation was received and sent to First Selectman Pat Llodra. Mr. Guidera moved to accept the letter of resignation from Lisa Krauss. Second by Mr. Boccuzzi and unanimously approved.

REPORTS:

DIRECTOR OF SENIOR SERVICES: Ms. Wiedemann distributed the Director's Report. (ATTACHMENT A) Discussion of the Aging Well CT website supported by the Buck Foundation. Ms. Ryles explained that the website will have individual pages for participating town senior center. Ms. Frampton asked if the website will be able to be accessed via the Town senior center page, yes there will be a link. There is a tentative May 30 launch date, but may be postponed. 6 towns are now participating with more expected to join. Mr. Boccuzzi moved to reimburse from gift fund for expenses \$388.55 for food supplies for Mother's Day Tea and \$150.00 for two seniors for trip for a total of \$538.55. Second by Ms. Frampton and unanimously approved.

DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES: Ms. LoBosco reviewed the Director of Social Services/ Municipal Agent for the Elderly Report (ATTACHMENT B). Despite the rain, the postal food drive was a success, about 6,700 lbs of food donated, 200 lbs from the Lions Club.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ms. Wiedemann and Ms. Rothstein distributed the Treasurer's Report (ATTACHMENT C). Noted the Frank Knott Trust Fund, Newtown is one of 10 recipients, Finance Director Bob Tait has the original document, investment with strong returns. **Ms. Theune moved to appoint Ms. Rothstein as Treasurer.** Second by Mr. Symes and unanimously approved.

GRANTS COMMITTEE: Ms. Bloom discussed pending grants, one for senior self-defense. Discussed intricacies of filling out federal forms and grant applications. Positive feedback from participants on recent art class and instructor.

CHAIR/VICE CHAIR: Ms. Wiedemann and Mr. Guidera presented the Chair and Vice Chair report (ATTACHMENT D). Discussion of League of Senior Voters, Board of Finance, regarding tax incentive for seniors. \$800 tax break discussed and income cap and incentive to attract senior base to the Town. Test recommended. Ms. Theune referred to an existing senior tax abatement program. Ms. Frampton referenced a \$1.6 million to distribute and different ways to facilitate the program, a deferred program for example. Ms. Ryles indicated that this program is underutilized. It was agreed that the COA will not take a position on this but that the COA would let seniors know about the program. Discussion of ways to spread the word included volunteers to help, post information on the website, include in the newsletter and other forms of media. Information is also included with the tax bill. Since May 15 is the deadline, start getting the word out when people start doing their taxes. Program is a 2 year cycle. Approximately \$250,000 was not used last year

OLD BUSINESS: *Elder Abuse Forum* – Ms. Wiedemann indicated the need to come up with a date for discussion and names for sub-committee. Sign up committee sheet distributed.

Survey and update on Livable Community Initiative – Mr. Boccuzzi distributed the survey (ATTACHMENT E). The survey is designed around the AARP survey book which includes questions covering approximately 8 domains, requests opinions on what currently exists and suggestions for improvements. Survey results will define a 5 year plan for a livable community that can age in place. The info will be combined with 2014 survey, solid data, and state wide survey done by AARP. The survey is up on Survey Monkey, waiting for COA to see it and provide input. Discussion of how to promote the survey, get the word out to seniors and help people fill out the survey. Ms. Frampton suggested to look into the library. Ms. Rothstein offered help in entering on a data base. It will be on Survey Monkey for 2 months. Survey to go to all seniors in Newtown and can be filled out on line or on a hard copy. Agreed to do print 400. Greenwich and Newtown are the only towns involved with this program, Ms. Wiedemann added that it would be great if Newtown could be one of the models for this program going forward.

NEW BUSINESS: Tax break for all Seniors (discussed in the Chair/Vice Chair Report).

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

June Sgobbo, Clerk

Attachments: Director of Senior Services Report, Director of Social Services Report, Treasurer's Report, Chair/Vice Chair Report, Tax Credit Plan for Newtown Senior Taxpayers, Community Center/Senior Center Design Team Meeting, Survey 2017 Town of Newtown & Friends of Newtown Seniors.

A BIG THANK YOU donation of \$1000.00 from the Newtown Lions Club !!!

ATTACHMENT A

REMINDER:

Aging Well CTBuck's Foundation website Start-up fee was voted on July 18 for \$1200 using monies from shredding day

Good news the fee is now \$800 with a one-time fee of Photo Scroll of \$250

Annual Fee for website maintenance is \$500.....TOTAL \$1550

More discussion at meeting. **MEETING on May 19 for launch date**

UPDATE:

New inter-generational program with Head O' Meadow School second graders writing project

Was a wonderful experience for the 10 seniors and 2nd & 4th graders who participated. We will be doing this again w/ hopes for more seniors doing inter-generational programs.

Dance Teams from Lathrop School of Dance performed at the Center April 18th was fantastic...wonderful show the dancers put on of all ages. CAC was also involved.

Mother's Day Tea May 12

HUGE SUCCESS!!!! So much fun.

Over 40 seniors attended with a wait list...was a perfect day, fantastic help from staff and volunteers. A big thank you to Karin Aurelia, AnnMarie Macey and Barbara Oronato.

Also, a BIG THANK YOU to Sandy Hook Firehouse Women's Axillary for flowers in a vase for each of the ladies attending the Tea.

A lot of work goes into preparing, shopping for supplies, setting up and making the refreshments....all in between classes, late nights and clean up to prepare for the next day. And it was wonderful!

Work continues for the Aging Well CT website

All Lunch and Learns on Friday are a big success.

I will be having a Lunch and Learn Friday June 2 w/ HARTransit. This will be very informative. Kennedy Center will also be in attendance to explain the handicap transportation also.

Annual Statewide Senior Picnic is Monday August 21

Annual Senior picnic @ Masonicare is Sept 15

I'm planning a TRIAD in the Fall....Have spoken with Officer MH McCarthy, Jennifer Crane, Center for Support and Wellness and Arthur Gottlieb LCSW, and St Dept. of Protective Services. Would like to include Health Dept and the VNA and COA. Topic(s) isn't settle yet but it will be about Elder Abuse. This will be after hours and/or on a Saturday.

Spring is here ... More to report on Monday

Keeping the seniors busy and active.

Marilyn



NEWTOWN SENIOR CENTER
Director of Senior Services
April 14, 2017 – May 12, 2017

PROGRAMS NUMBER OF ATTENDANTS (April)

Meditation	39
Zumba Gold	31
Exercise	278
Floor Yoga (2 days)	61
Chair Yoga (2 day)	81
Cards	22
Mah Jong	8
Bingo/Keno	14
Lunch	84
Hot Dog/pizza Luncheon	26
Knitting	23
Iris Fold cards	13
Quilting/sewing	12
Walk-Ins	16
Billiards/ping pong	4
Crafts	12
Trips	24
Newsletter	6
Wii	15
Painting/Art	20
Special events/entertainment	145
Tai Chi	30
Qi Gong	25
AARP Safe Driving	
Ballroom Line dance	19
Barn Dance	19
Current Events Discussion	26
Spanish Lessons	29
Speakers	91
Chair Pilates	22
Strength & Balance	21
Inter-generational w/ CAC	48
Password	15
Blood Pressure	23
AARP Taxes	62

Attendance Daily:

Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thurs	Friday	Monthly Attendance
213	312	199	216	207	1147

COMPLETED EVENTS:

- Newtown Senior Citizen Recognition Day April 13
- Annual Mother's Day Tea May 12

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Memorial Day presentation May 25
- TRANSPORTATION FORUM June 2
- Monuments of DC presentation June 5
- A Life Less Ordinary speaker June 23
- Transitional Senior Care Coach

TRIPS:

- Glenn Miller Orchestra May 15
- Mohegan Sun May 23
- Newport Playhouse May 25
- Sunday Brunch Jazz Cruise NYC June 4
- One World Observatory June 29
- Frankie Vallie August 17
- National Parks Experience Oct 10-16

CRUISES:

- Transatlantic Cruise Spain/Canary Island Oct 19-Nov 3, 2017
- Canyon Country Experience Oct 10-16

SPEAKERS:

1. Vein Institute of CT April 28

Lunch and Learns:

1. Transportation Forum June 2
2. Confession of an Urban Archeologists June 7
3. Best Friend's Approach to Dementia June 16
4. WCAAA Assistive Technology August 18

Cultural History Series: Continues w/ Arthur Gottlieb LSCW

1. Thursday May 25 @ 1:00 Memorial Day
2. Monday June 5 @ 1:00 Monuments of Washington DC

GIFT FUND:

\$388.55 total for food supplies for 44 seniors at Mother's Day Tea

Also:

\$150.00 (\$75.00 each) total for a senior member and senior daughter to go on a trip which she has no money to attend (she is a volunteer and knits for the Center. Never asks for anything.)

Total \$538.55 from SS gift account to reimburse for food and to sponsor 2 seniors on Glenn Miller" trip.

**DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES/MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR
THE ELDERLY**

May 2017

Program Statistics

Energy Assistance Applications (245 applications to date)
Food Pantry (45 individuals/families visit weekly)
Operation Fuel Program began December 1st – (15 applications to date - \$6,587.88 total).
Salvation Army – (26 applications to date - \$8,162.76 total)
Goodwill gift cards – 3 distributed
Renter's Rebate – Program started on April 3rd (31 applications to date).

The elderly couple we have been working with finally has a conservator in place. A live-in was placed in the home to attend to their daily needs; they seem to be adjusting nicely.

Re-starting the application for an elderly couple who needs to apply for long term care. The wife can no longer take care of the husband; we will be looking at home care possibilities as well as nursing homes.

Donations are continuing to come in to support the Summer Camp Program we provide along with Parks & Rec. Three camp scholarships have been awarded to date. One of those is for a child who is in the care of grandparents.

Attended the CAPE Conference on Elder Abuse held at Quinnipiac on April 20, 2017. Workshop was very informative; emphasized that elder abuse exists in every community and focused on how a town can form strategies in order to be proactive in dealing with these situations.

Attended workshop at Maplewood Stony Hill, "Dealing with Difficult People". Focused on how to work with challenging individuals and families; shared strategies used to reduce frustration and de-escalate agitated behavior.

The Postal Food Drive will be held on May 13th. We have been reorganizing the pantry's storage room in an effort to make room for the abundance of donations we are expecting.

COA/SENIOR SERVICES GIFT FUND

DATE		RECEIPTS/DISBURSEMENTS	C/R	C/D	FRANK KNOTTS TRUST FUND	NEW SENIOR CENTER	GRANT	BALANCE
Balance								50,115.33
3/13/2017		Bazaar items-Receipt		20.00				50,135.33
3/16/2017		Ck #27124- Arthur Gottlieb	(440.00)					49,695.33
3/16/2017		Ck #27098- CS Consulting & Services	(23.80)					49,671.53
3/30/2017		Donation- Albanesi		1,000.00				50,671.53
4/13/2017		Ck#27423 Prime Publishers	(62.27)					50,671.53
4/19/2017		Ck #27525- Marilyn Place-Food & Paper	(95.36)					50,609.26
4/20/2017		Trust Distribution T-50584			562.15			50,513.90
4/27/2017		Ck #27469- Bee Publishing	(23.80)					51,076.05
4/27/2017		Ck #27565- Anna Wiedemann-Flowers	(80.03)					51,052.25
4/30/2017		March P-Card-CT POST Ad	(313.45)					50,972.22
			(1,038.71)	1,020.00	562.15			50,658.77
Grant WCAAA								
Grant -Regi-Pottery							1,664.38	
7/26/2016		Ck #24135- Brookfield Craft Center					(182.50)	
7/28/2016		Payment for Pottery Class-T-6609					70.00	
8/18/2016		Ck #24566- Lynn Welsh					(615.00)	
9/15/2016		Ck #24931- Lynn Welsh					(285.00)	
9/15/2016		Ck #24796- Brookfield Craft Center					(182.50)	
10/27/2016		Ck #25517- Lynn Welsh					(457.50)	
11/7/2016		Ck #25723- Lynn Welsh					(11.88)	
							0.00	

ATTACHMENT C

Chair & Vice Chair Report

A big thank you to everyone! The bonding is set for the new Senior Center – 15 years, in my tenure, in the making!

We have a Round Table today at Walnut Tree Community at Phase 1. We will have a Round Table at Walnut Tree Community Phase 2 on September 18 at 3:00. Please feel free to join us at the Round Tables anytime. They are meant to be informal sessions. I am not planning any for July and August. Although, we will have our regular COA meetings in those months. My hope is to reach out to other 55 and over communities and hold Round Tables there the remaining months of 2017.

The Mother's Day Tea is at the Senior Center Friday, May 12. I'm sure Marilyn will report on this. I know a couple of members are attending as well. The Senior Citizen Prom is Friday night, 5/12 as well from 4-8:00pm. It is always a great way to introduce the COA to folks who are not always sure of who or more importantly, why, we are.

On June 2nd, at 11:30, there will be a Lunch and Learn at the Senior Center regarding HART transportation.

A suggestion was made that perhaps a weekly bulletin could be sent to members of the Senior Center. George and I welcome any and all suggestions from both the COA and the public (annawiedemanncoa@gmail.com)

The League of Senior Voters is currently trying to work with the Board of Finance to create a way to help all seniors in town with a tax break. Should there be a tax break for seniors who are lower income or all seniors? When I attended the Board of Finance meeting, my initial reaction was only for those in need. Now our attitude is, we should be helping all seniors.

Anna Wiedemann, Chair and George Guidera, Vice Chair

A TAX CREDIT PLAN FOR NEWTOWN SENIOR TAXPAYERS

If you are a taxpayer in Newtown age 65 and over and do not presently receive reductions to your real estate tax bill under the Newtown Age and Income Qualifying Senior Tax Relief Plan, you may qualify for a partial tax refund under the Newtown Senior Tax Credit Plan.

(1) If you are a taxpayer age 65 to 74 in 2018, you can apply for and receive a refund of 10% of your real estate tax bill.

(2) If you are age 75 and older in 2018, you can apply for and receive a refund of 13% of your real estate tax bill.

To receive your refund, enclose a copy of your driver's license with full payment of the enclosed tax bill. Please allow 30 days for your refund to be processed and mailed to you.

If you have any questions regarding qualifying and receiving a Newtown Senior Tax Credit, you may bring your tax bill and proof of age to the offices of the Newtown Tax Collector, (address), between the hours of 9:00 am -12:00, Monday – Friday.

Volunteers from the Newtown Commission on Aging will be happy to assist you in this matter.

We ask this board to give intensive and swift consideration to this plan. If you accept the concept, we hope you will send it on to the Legislative Council for action, before the end of the fiscal year.

If it goes to them later this year, and as boards finish their term in office at year end, newly elected board and council members will be in place.

We have already been told last September and early this year that no action would be taken by the Legislative Council, the Ordinance Committee and the Board of Finance, as its members prepared to deliberate on budgets and referendums.

If no action is taken by the present boards, a whole new set of elected board members may want to start over with new investigations, discussions and deliberations on this matter.

And two more years will go by without tax relief for all senior taxpayers.

Please do not let this happen.

Thank you.

Community Center/Senior Center Design Team meeting

May 2, 2017 1:00 p.m.

Newtown Senior Center Riverside Road

Present: Rusty Malik, Kevin McFarland (Quisenberry/Arcari); Marilyn Place (Senior Center Director); Pat Llodra (First Selectman); Advisory Committee: Anna Wiedemann, Barbara Bloom, Lereine Frampton. One member of the press, Kendra Bobowick of the Newtown Bee.

Architects Malik and McFarland began the meeting with an overview of recommendations for programming and space allocation (attached). Discussions among the participants led to several suggestions for modifications: 1) create a covered patio or terrace tucked in on the south-west side, and 2) relocate the multi-purpose rooms to connect with that patio area. These suggestions were considered very favorably by the group, pointing out the enhanced opportunity for indoor/outdoor activity and greater use of the multi-purpose spaces. Discussions about parking affirmed that bus drop-off and turn around will be accommodated at the entrance to the center; attention will be paid, also, to the design of the senior parking areas in order to avoid steps and elevations as much as possible. The center will have a dedicated entrance, a service/prep kitchen, two arts/crafts room, a dedicated space for exercise, a small retail location for the sale of senior-made goods, and classrooms. Dedicated storage will be created to serve each function. Proposed for the lobby entrance is comfortable seating and maybe a fireplace. There is a need for up-to-date technology that provides for ease of video-projection. Further, spaces identified for meetings, lectures, book-club activity, and that sort – should be wired with hearing assist loops to better accommodate persons with audio challenges. The architects discussed at length the interior spaces and related programming; described the relationship of those spaces to the community center rooms; and illustrated access from the senior center hallway through to the aquatics component and rooms beyond.

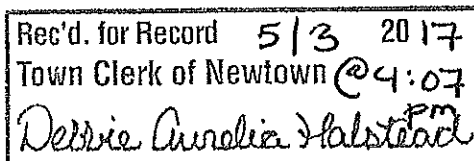
Discussion about exterior spaces again affirmed the desirability of the proposed location on the west side of the community center building. In addition to the covered patio, bocce courts would be an attractive and useful outdoor element. An interest in connecting to Nunnawauk Meadows via a walkway was discussed. That option will be explored for future consideration.

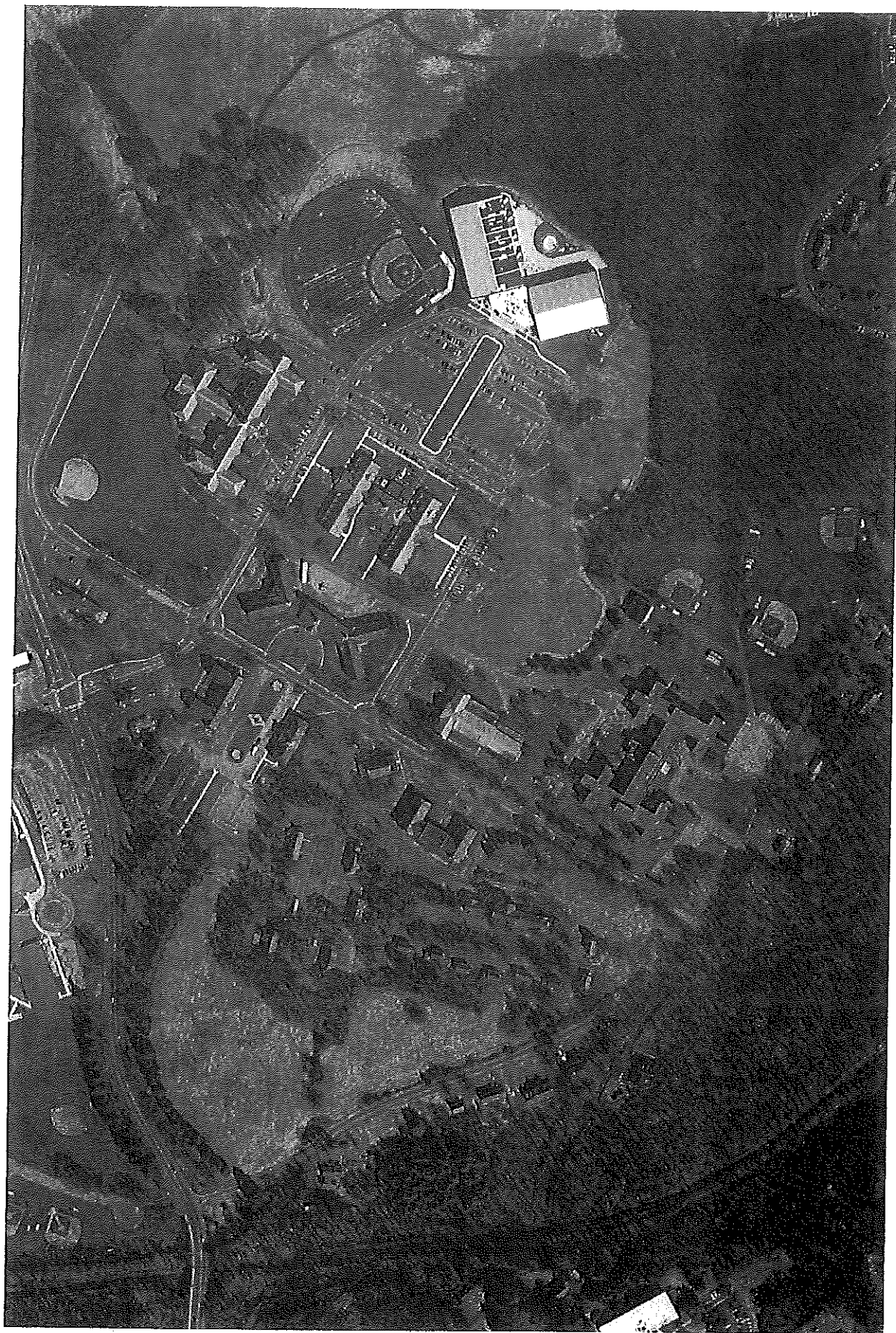
The design team will present its recommendation to the BoS sometime soon after May 15. It is anticipated that one final meeting with the senior center advisory group will occur before the BoS presentation.

The document describing the roles and tasks of the advisory groups, and others involved with the community center/senior center was distributed for members to consider and react to.

Meeting adjourned 2:25 .

E. Patricia Llodra

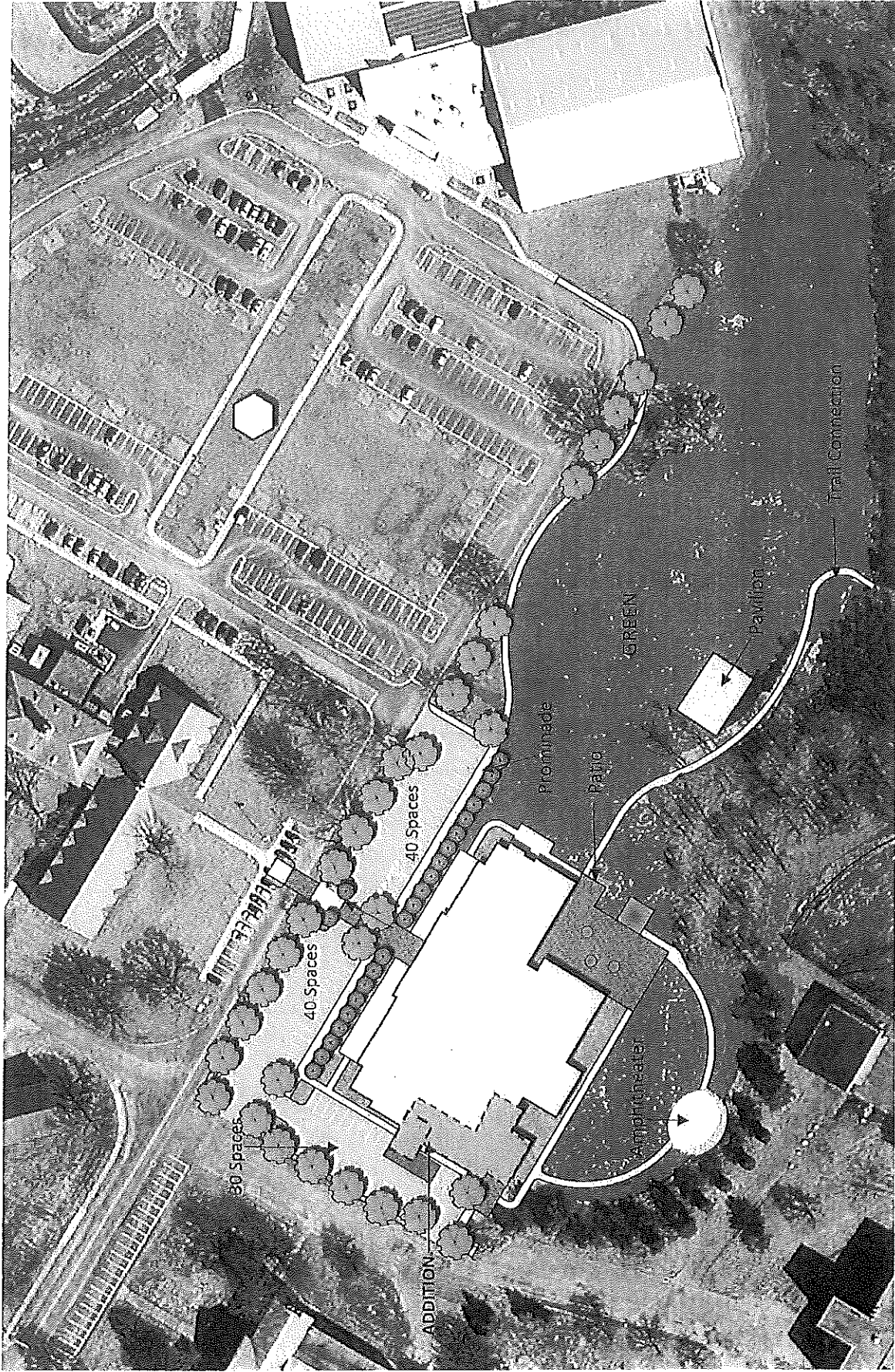




Status Update
April 28, 2017

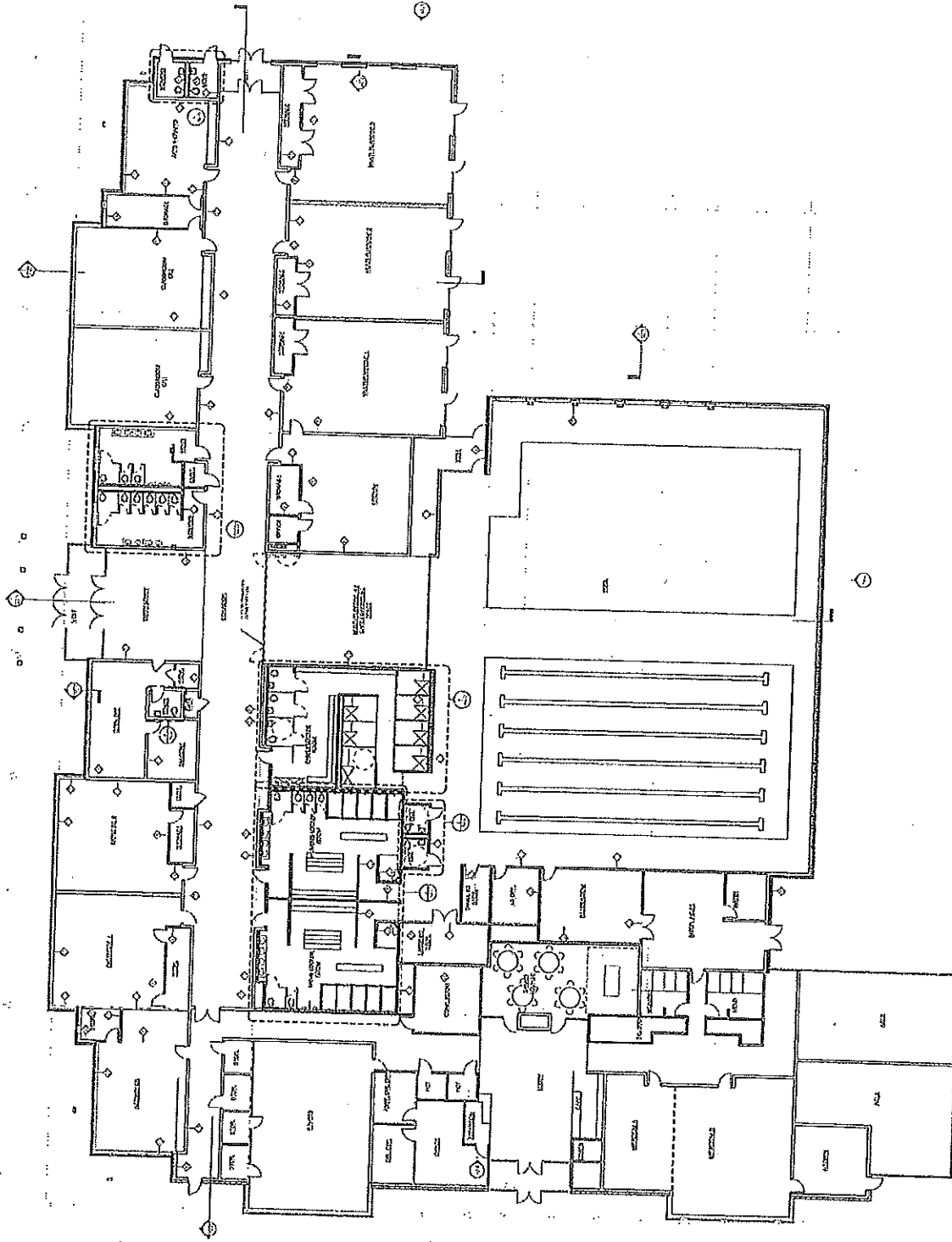


NEWTOWN COMMUNITY CENTER



NEWTOWN COMMUNITY CENTER

SITE "C" PLAN



NEWTOWN SENIOR CENTER

Status Update
April 28, 2017



Programming Study for the Newtown Senior Center

Program Summary

Updated April 28, 2017

<u>Page</u>	<u>Building Program Space</u>	<u>Associated Net Area</u>
1	ENTRY VESTIBULE	75 sf
2	LOBBY	635 sf
3	HC Toilet ROOMS & COAT SERVICES – 185 sf	In Lobby
4	COMMUNITY INFORMATION CENTER	In Lobby
5	CAFÉ – 150 sf	In Lobby
6	WIFI Lounge – 50 sf	In Lobby
7	GALLERY	In Circulation
8	HEALTH SCREENING / SALON	In Admin Space
9	SENIOR RETAIL STORE	125 sf
10	ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES & SOCIAL SERVICES	700 sf
11	ACTIVITY SPACES	1,500 sf
12	GAME ROOMS / TABLE GAMES & CARDS	In Activity Space
13	LIBRARY / COMPUTER	In Activity Space
14	ARTS & CRAFTS	1,600 sf
15	EXERCISE ROOM & HEALTH	1,200 sf
16	FITNESS ROOM(Use Health/ Fitness Space)	In health/Exercise
17	CHANGING ROOMS / JAN	In Aquatic Program
18	MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM	1,200 sf
19	KITCHEN	300 sf
20	TOILET ROOMS	500 sf
21	ELECTRIC ROOMS	In Aquatic Center - Shared
22	MECHANICAL ROOM	In Aquatic Center - Shared
23	WATER / SPRINKLER ROOM	In Aquatic Center - Shared
24	EMERGENCY GENERATOR	On-site
25	CIRCULATION	Net to Gross
Sub-Total of Net Space Needs		7,835 sf
Net to gross Calculation		x 1.20
Total Gross Space Needs		9,402 SF

318 Main Street
Farmington, CT 06032

860.677.4594
860.677.8534 FAX

Survey 2017 Town of Newtown & Friends of Newtown Seniors**info@friendsnewtownseniors.org or call 203 430 0633 PO Box 413 Newtown****Demographics**

What is your gender? _____ Do you live alone? Yes _____ No _____

Which of the following age ranges do you fall into?

50-59 _____ 60-69 _____ 70-79 _____ 80-89 _____ 90+ _____

Do you drive? Yes _____ No _____ Does someone provide transportation? Yes _____ No _____

Communication

1. To what extent does Newtown have appropriate ways to reach out to the senior community for input and to provide information?

Excellent _____ Good _____ Needs Improvement _____ Poor _____ Non-existent _____

2. Are programs for the older adult population well publicized?

Yes _____ No _____ I Don't Know _____

3. Does Newtown have an information hotline or a directory of services for older persons?

Yes _____ No _____ I Don't Know _____

4. Is there an adequate legal services program for older persons in Newtown?

Yes _____ No _____ I Don't Know _____

5. Are there opportunities for congregate meals for older residents in Newtown?

Yes _____ No _____ I Don't Know _____

6. How would you suggest we develop effective and efficient means of communicating with seniors in Newtown?

Transportation

1. Other than personal automobiles a town should offer clean, dependable, affordable, convenient, and accessible transportation. How would you rank Newtown in this category?

Excellent _____ Good _____ Needs Improvement _____ Poor _____ Non-existent _____

2. Does Newtown have a dial-a-ride service?

Yes _____ No _____ I Don't Know _____

3. Do local organizations (such as senior centers, churches, or other groups) offer car service to meal sites, doctor's appointments, or special recreational excursions?

Yes _____ No _____ I Don't Know _____

Survey 2017 Town of Newtown & Friends of Newtown Seniors

info@friendsnewtownseniors.org or call 203 430 0633 PO Box 413 Newtown

4. Do medical centers offer transportation service for dialysis and other regular medical needs?

Yes ____ No ____ I Don't Know ____

5. Do leisure communities have their own van to take residents shopping, to the doctor, and to cultural activities?

Yes ____ No ____ I Don't Know ____

6. What would you offer as suggestions to improve transportation for all seniors?

Civic Engagement and Employment

1. To what extent do opportunities exist for seniors to become involved in civic organizations and/or in meaningful and gainful employment?

Excellent ____ Good ____ Needs Improvement ____ Poor ____ Non-existent ____

2. Are self-employment options for older people promoted and supported?

Yes ____ No ____ I Don't Know ____

3. Is training in post-retirement options provided for older workers?

Yes ____ No ____ I Don't Know ____

4. Would you be interested in such training?

Yes ____ No ____ I Don't Know ____

5. Please add any comments you have related to civic engagement and/or employment.

Community and Health Services

1. How would you rate the way Newtown's community and health services address the needs of seniors?

Excellent ____ Good ____ Needs Improvement ____ Poor ____ Non-existent ____

2. Is access to health care an issue for those in Newtown with limited incomes?

Yes ____ No ____ I Don't Know ____

3. Are home health care services available in Newtown?

Yes ____ No ____ I Don't Know ____

Survey 2017 Town of Newtown & Friends of Newtown Seniors

info@friendsnewtownseniors.org or call 203 430 0633 PO Box 413 Newtown

4. Are there adequate mental health services?

Yes ____ No ____ I Don't Know ____

5. Is adequate public information easily available about health care and Medicare benefits, for instance, through discussion groups and opportunities to talk with professionals?

Yes ____ No ____ I Don't Know ____

6. What health services do you feel could be offered to improve the life of seniors in Newtown?

Housing

1. To what extent does Newtown have adequate housing to meet the needs of seniors in a broad spectrum of socioeconomic situations?

Excellent ____ Good ____ Needs Improvement ____ Poor ____ Non-existent ____

2. Are affordable housing options available near basic shopping opportunities, a regular transit route, and recreational opportunities?

Yes ____ No ____ I Don't Know ____

3. Are you aware of individuals who are unable to find appropriate housing within Newtown?

Yes ____ No ____ I Don't Know ____

4. Does your community offer any property tax reductions for homeowners over age 65?

Yes ____ No ____ I Don't Know ____

5. Does Newtown offer information or financial or material assistance for senior home repairs, maintenance, and weatherization?

Yes ____ No ____ I Don't Know ____

6. What do you think could be done to improve housing for seniors in Newtown?

Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

1. How would you rate Newtown's availability of outdoor spaces which can be safely enjoyed by seniors of all levels of mobility?

Excellent ____ Good ____ Needs Improvement ____ Poor ____ Non-existent ____

Survey 2017 Town of Newtown & Friends of Newtown Seniors

info@friendsnewtownseniors.org or call 203 430 0633 PO Box 413 Newtown

2. How would you rate the way buildings accommodate the needs of seniors who have limited mobility?

Excellent ___ Good ___ Needs Improvement ___ Poor ___ Non-existent ___

3. Are there adequate, shaded, resting places for pedestrians along the sidewalks?

Yes ___ No ___ I Don't Know ___

4. Are there call boxes in case of emergency?

Yes ___ No ___ I Don't Know ___

5. Do grocery stores and drugstores/pharmacies in the area offer home delivery service?

Yes ___ No ___ I Don't Know ___

6. What facilities or accommodations should be offered to seniors in Newtown?

Social Participation

1. To what degree are venues for events and activities conveniently located, accessible, and easily reached?

Excellent ___ Good ___ Needs Improvement ___ Poor ___ Non-existent ___

2. Are events held at times convenient for older people?

Yes ___ No ___ I Don't Know ___

3. Can activities and events be attended either alone or with a companion?

Yes ___ No ___ I Don't Know ___

4. Are activities and attractions affordable, with no hidden or additional participation costs?

Yes ___ No ___ I Don't Know ___

5. Are a wide variety of activities offered to appeal to a diverse population of seniors?

Yes ___ No ___ I Don't Know ___

6. Is there a consistent outreach to include people at risk of social isolation?

Yes ___ No ___ I Don't Know ___

7. In what kind of events would you want to take part? List all you would find of interest.

Respect and Social Inclusion

1. How would you rate opportunities for seniors to become involved in social activities?

Excellent ___ Good ___ Needs Improvement ___ Poor ___ Non-existent ___

2. How would you rate the Newtown community's respect for seniors?

Excellent ___ Good ___ Needs Improvement ___ Poor ___ Non-existent ___

3. How would you rate the Newtown community's encouragement of social inclusion for seniors?

Excellent ___ Good ___ Needs Improvement ___ Poor ___ Non-existent ___

4. Does the library provide adequate resources and accessibility (audiobooks, adequate lighting, adequate acoustics)?

Yes ___ No ___ I Don't Know ___

5. Are you familiar with the activities, classes, and trips offered by the senior center?

Yes ___ No ___ I Don't Know ___

6. What are some things that you feel demonstrate respect for seniors? What do you think can be done to show respect to seniors?

Please indicate any comments or suggestions you have to offer that would help Newtown become a model for other communities in providing a truly livable community for people of all ages which specifically encourages individuals to "age in place" in Newtown.
