Community Center Commission Minutes

Regular Meeting May 17, 2022

8 Simpson Street

Newtown, CT 06470

Conference Room moved to room A

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE COMMUNITY CENTER COMMITTEE

Present: Matt Ariniello, Jeff Tousignant, Bill Manfredonia, Cheyanne Wirtz, Jordana Bloom and Alesha Rizwana

Absent: Kinga Walsh, Filippo Formica, Fred Taylor, Doria Linnetz and Sadie Gureasko-Moore

Mr Manfredonia called the meeting to order at 6:35 with a salute to the flag.

There was no public to comment.

Mr Tousignant moved to accept the minutes from 4/19/22 with Ms Bloom 2nd. Motion approved with Ms Wirtz abstaining.

Financials are attached.

Directors Report is attached. Discussion on lifeguard shortages. Mr Ariniello said they trained 6 more lifeguards and he suggested that they apply at the Community Center. They are hopefully training for the Community Center, Treadwell and Eichler’s Cove. To work at Eichler’s Cove they need additional training. They have planned on site field trips for the summer camp. There was a lot of discussion on new activities planned for the summer camps. Fencing will be installed around the field to protect money invested in the new lawn. The lawn will be a great place for the campers to have activities. There was a lot of discussion on staffing shortages. The Commissioners are concerned with the amount of time Matt is at work and with the many things he has been handling. They are concerned for his health and the need for others to know what is going on and be able to handle things in his absence. The financials show the ability to pay for additional staff. Mr Ariniello has been working with Mr Tait to invest funds.

Discussion on signs for the pool/locker areas. (verbiage attached) Ms Wirtz moved to approve the verbiage as attached for the signs for the pool/locker areas. Mr Tousignant 2nd - approved
Subcommittee report attached:

Discussion on adding need for admin assistant to agenda of next meeting. Discussion on the list of priorities to be addressed first. Discussion on mission to be inclusive to all. The commission decided #6 ages 21 to seniors, #4/#1 demographics and teens, #2/#3 young moms/homeschoolers/seniors and #10 staffing are the items to be addressed next.

Mr Tousignant moved to adjourn the meeting with Ms Wirtz 2nd. Mr Manfredonia adjourned the meeting at 7:43.

Respectfully submitted,

LeReine Frampton, temporary clerk
Proposed NCC New Locker Room Sign (top area and lock line only)
UPDATED: April 29, 2022

MALE/FEMALE:
Top Area Copy ---

_The Men’s/Women’s Locker Room is provided for use by individuals 12 or older and children under the age of 12 when accompanied by an adult parent/guardian of the same gender. Adults with children of any gender may use the Family Locker room._

FAMILY:
Top Area Copy –

_The Family Locker Room is provided for use by parent(s)/guardian(s) escorting their children up to age 12 and anyone age 12 and up with individual needs of any kind._

LOCK REFERENCE LINE (all versions), italicized copy represents update –
Lockers are for day use only and must be emptied before leaving the facility. Do not leave locks on overnight. _Failure to remove a lock will result in it being cut off and personal items being placed in the lost & found._

Wording approved 5/17/22
Hi All,

Here are the minutes of our May 3rd Strategic Subcommittee meeting. Sorry for the delay in getting this to you as I have been away and just returned this weekend.

Attendance: Matt, Jeff, Doria and Bill

Discussion Items:

1. Jeff did a very detailed job of reviewing the data of the usage at NCC
2. Rental data was added to the spreadsheets
3. We discussed being aware of knowing that the demographic population that we service does fit the mission statement of the NCC
4. We should look out 3 - 5 years as to our programs and what our facility can handle
5. When we survey we should include as many of our population as possible; ask why they have joined; ask to share their experiences at NCC; and to ask for recommendations for additional programs

Strengths Identified:

1. Very strong results and participation with the aquatics and swim lessons
2. Strong participation for child care when schools have early dismissal and are closed
3. We are the largest rental space in the area and need to identify how we use our space
4. We need to build off of our trends in our current facility usage

Areas to Improve and Identify Additional Needs

1. Are we addressing and identifying programs for all of our demographic population?
2. What are the gaps in our room availability?
3. How can we increase our rentals?
4. Need to identify future NCC teen programs? Is the current teen center a viable option for Newtown teens?
5. Need to increase offering free programs to members and community, as this expansion allows for additional NCC positive exposure
6. Improve and increase all additional adult programming, with attention on culinary programs
7. Increase our relationships with the local hospital and a speakers' program
8. Identify our potential relationship with the Western CT Council on Aging for programs
9. Increase programs for special needs' students and to set up partnerships to organize and run these programs
10. Identify the needs of our current physical facility as we move forward 3 - 5 years

We did not set up for a future meeting and will discuss our next direction at one of our upcoming NCC committee meetings

Bill
Directors Report
5/16/2022

It has been a busy few weeks as we wrap up the first phase of the Locker room project. We expect to have the women’s locker room reopened by week’s end and will begin the work on the men’s locker room. We expect to have the full project completed by June 3rd.

We have purchased a gate to curb parking on our new grass surfaces from campus parking that will be installed next week. We have reopened the female outdoor bathroom as a unisex bathroom while work is completed due to the fire.

I am grateful for the recent approval of $90,000.00 for the purchase of a new 16-passenger van for the Community Center and Senior Center through the American Rescue Plan. This will continue to help support our Afterschool programming.

On Wednesday, May 18th I will host a bid invitation for the patio project at 10 am to invite contractors for an informational session on the project, bids are due back by 5/31. I expect construction to begin late summer.

Last week we hosted a Middle Gate Kids Night Out event in partnership with the Middle Gate PTA. The event drew 49 children from Middle Gate and part of the proceeds will benefit the Middle Gate PTA.

I am excited to announce some new grant award from the Newtown Cultural Arts Commission and Step Into Swim Foundation. The Cultural Arts grant will allow for the purchase of a display case for our pottery programs. The $2,000.00 Step into Swim grant will assist with swim lesson scholarships.

We are requesting 50K from the Connecticut State Department of Education for the Summer Enrichment grant. This will allow us to expand our summer camp offerings and site plan, offer more onsite field trips and hire an Enrichment Coordinator who will assist with STEAM activities. Summer Camp numbers currently stand at 1,098. For the second year, we will once again partner with Newtown Youth and Family Services and provide the water safety education portion of Safety Town a four week preschool education program.
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Scholarships Awarded

Total Members

Membership Categories
- 3 Month Youth Membership
- 3 Month Family Membership
- Employee Membership
- Family
- Volunteer First Responder
- Monthly Youths/Teen
- Monthly Single Parent Family
- Monthly Senior
- Monthly Senior Couple
- Monthly Family
- Monthly Adult

Newtown Community Center - April 2022
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May-22
Community Center Investments
Town of Newtown
Minutes of May 3rd Strategic Subcommittee Meeting

William Manfredonia <billmanfredonia@aol.com>  Sun, May 8, 2022 at 6:44 PM
To: Matthew Ariniello <matthew.ariniello@newtown-ct.gov>, Doria <Dlinnetz@icloud.com>, Jeff Tousignant <tousignant66@hotmail.com>, Kinga Walsh <kwalsccc@gmail.com>
Cc: The Weather Guy <fgf2134@gmail.com>, "billmanfredonia@aol.com" <billmanfredonia@aol.com>

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