

Commission on Aging
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Monday, March 18, 2013 @ 5:00 pm

MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE COMMISSION ON AGING

The Commission on Aging held a regular meeting on Monday, March 18, 2013 at the Senior Center, 14 Riverside Road, Sandy Hook, Connecticut.

Chairman Curt Symes called the meeting to order at 5:07 pm.

Members Present: Karin Aurelia, Joanne Davis, LeReine Frampton, Joan Plouffe, Anne Rothstein, Larry Schneider, Curt Symes (Chair), and Sheila Torres; **Members Excused:** JoAnne Albanese, Margaret Imbro, and Mary Ellen Lydem; **Support & Advisory Present:** Marilyn Place, Director of Senior Services; Ann Piccini, Municipal Agent for the Elderly; and Maryhelen McCarthy, Police Officer, Newtown Police Department & TRIAD Representative.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – Mr. Symes said the COA has been reaching out to other organizations in and around Newtown to communicate the commission’s goals and to better understand the senior needs around the community. The Community Relations Team is having interactions with groups in Newtown and feels this will benefit visibility for senior activities across and beyond Newtown.

Mr. Symes stated there have been no new submissions for the alternate appointment on the commission and that Margaret Imbro has submitted a letter for consideration for appointment as a permanent member of the commission. The Board of Selectmen is anticipated to act on this in April.

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 25, 2013 MEETING – Ms. Plouffe motioned to accept the minutes of the February 25, 2013 Meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Frampton. The minutes were approved as written.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT – Mr. Symes said the Strategic Planning Team (SPT) met once over the course of this past month to assess ongoing work and to outline the commission’s 2013 objectives. Many of the original objectives have had to be reassessed with recent tragic events. He is hoping by the April meeting that some timeframes will be established. Newtown and Sandy Hook are still healing and with this thought in mind he felt the COA can continue to identify actions that might help the process. He will be asking Commissioners for their thoughts and ideas to support the healing process. Meeting Time: Based upon inputs from Members of the COA, Mr. Symes stated the commission will continue to meet on the third Monday of the month at 5:00 pm.

TREASURER’S REPORT (Attachment A to the original minutes) – Ms. Aurelia distributed copies of the Finance Department’s statement showing that as of February 6, 2013 the balance in the Commission on Aging Gift Fund is \$36,181.24. This does not include a check from Taunton Press for \$300.00. Mr. Symes asked Ms. Aurelia if a donation came in by check made out to the Commission on Aging. Ms. Aurelia said never and that the gift fund is set up strictly for the senior center. He then asked Ms. Piccini about their gift fund. She said it is called Newtown Social Services Gift Fund and that a check has never been made out to the Municipal Agent.

DIRECTOR OF SENIOR SERVICES REPORT (Attachment B to the original minutes) – Ms. Place distributed her Report for the period 02/26/13 to 03/18/13, highlighting significant entries. She discussed having seniors more involved with volunteerism. There are 18 boxes of donated Christmas ornaments that volunteers can help go through. She stated that income tax assistance has been busy and that AARP driving courses are filled until September.

MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERY REPORT (Attachment C to the original minutes) – Ms. Piccini reviewed items on her report dated March 18, 2013. Mr. Symes asked Ms. Place and Ms. Piccini if they felt seniors may need informational sessions on Medicare Enrollment which can be somewhat confusing. Ms. Place said Western Connecticut Area on Aging comes in to speak on Medicare every other year. Mr. Symes discussed compiling and distributing for town awareness a Senior Calendar of Events, highlighting local, state and national programs.

Newtown Police Department and Triad Representative – Officer McCarthy discussed Police calls involving Senior Citizens and those with mental health issues. They do work with Social Services to help check in on those house bound. There was a group of young ladies from a Boston school with a banner that was signed by many people (not necessarily any particular organization) and brought to the Newtown Police Department. The sign is currently on display at the Senior Center. They offered to come down from Boston to assist at any event the Senior Center may have. Mr. Symes said it's such a beautiful banner that it should be rotated within Newtown and be offered to the Healing Center at some point.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Planned Giving Program and Gift Policy Status – Mr. Symes said the Gift Policy has progressed to the Board of Selectmen after some minor changes were made by the Legislative Council. Mr. Symes and Tom Dwyer have been working with Bob Tait to better understand the Gift Fund process.

Current Team Organization Status – Ms. Davis said teams will be meeting formally and that they can tailor their individual missions to include short term and long term goals.

Community Relations Team Activities – Sheila Torres said this team will be meeting the first Monday of each month at 3:00 pm and that they changed the name to "Community Relations and Outreach Team." They obtained the voter registration lists and can begin to communicate more personally with the seniors in Town. Mr. Symes said that mass mailings should be carefully determined. The commissioners discussed several events to bring the traveling exhibit to, i.e., the Newtown Labor Day Parade, the Pootatuck Duck Race, Newtown Arts Festival, etc.

Senior Center Wish List Status – Ms. Place said it remains the same. However, Mr. Symes is concerned that there are certain maintenance and privacy issue that require near term attention, given plans for a new Senior Center are off in the future.

NEW BUSINESS – Ms. Davis said there will be a hearing in the State Legislature on H.R.B. No. 6645 dealing with Physician Assisted Suicide. There are movements across the country to seed this concept in state law. Her concerns are that the Commission's constituency, the elderly, may become subject to manipulation under assisted suicide laws. She mentioned that the elderly and disabled are very vulnerable populations with respect to assisted suicide and asked everyone to look into this with regards to seniors because she feels there currently may not be adequate safeguards for protection.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

ADJOURNMENT – Ms. Frampton motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Aurelia. The meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Tammy Hazen, Clerk

COMMISSION ON AGING GIFT FUND

As of March 18, 2013

DATE	RECEIPTS/DISBURSEMENTS	C/R	C/D	FRANK KNOTTS	
				TRUST FUND	BALANCE
7/1/12	Beginning Balance				29,771.88
7/1/12	Reverse Accts. Payable		253.52		30,025.40
7/15/12	P-card (flowers for boxes & patio)		(253.52)		29,771.88
7/23/12	Trust Distribution			546.13	30,318.01
8/9/12	Ck. #77443 Holiday Hill		(280.00)		30,038.01
8/9/12	Ck. #77432 Getaway Tours		(660.00)		29,378.01
8/9/12	Ck. #77486 Marilyn Place - Driver tip		(60.00)		29,318.01
8/3/12	C/R - Donation - C. Bistany	12.00			29,330.01
8/14/12	Donation - Newtown Jr. Women's Club	50.00			29,380.01
9/27/12	Cash receipts from T-shirts/bags	552.00			29,932.01
10/4/12	Ck. #78314 Sheila Torres	open house info	(97.25)		29,834.76
10/4/12	Ck. #78229 Elite Marketing	t-shirts/bags	(790.00)		29,044.76
11/14/12	Annual Bazaar	2,881.10			31,925.86
12/11/12	Margaret Ryan (John Aurelia)	25.00			31,950.86
12/11/12	Angela Cuomo (John Aurelia)	20.00			31,970.86
12/11/12	Susan Lynn (John Aurelia)	25.00			31,995.86
12/11/12	Joan Gilbertie (John Aurelia)	20.00			32,015.86
12/11/12	Jacqueline Ohara (John Aurelia)	20.00			32,035.86
12/11/12	M&T Bank (John Aurelia)	25.00			32,060.86
12/11/12	Karen Harris (John Aurelia)	60.00			32,120.86
12/11/12	Cynthia Simon (John Aurelia)	250.00			32,370.86
12/11/12	Thomas Dwyer (John Aurelia)	100.00			32,470.86
12/11/12	Dottie Dellapiano(John Aurelia)	50.00			32,520.86
12/11/12	Rosemarie Gollenberg (John Aurelia)	25.00			32,545.86
12/11/12	June Hanna (John Aurelia)	50.00			32,595.86
12/11/12	AnnMarie Macey (John Aurelia)	1,000.00			33,595.86
12/11/12	Joseph Kearney (John Aurelia)	50.00			33,645.86
12/11/12	Francis Baldwin (John Aurelia)	15.00			33,660.86
12/11/12	Marilyn Perry (John Aurelia)	25.00			33,685.86
12/11/12	Dr. Anne Rothstein (John Aurelia)	100.00			33,785.86
12/12/12	Annual Holiday Party raffle	320.00			34,105.86

12/13/12	Foundation (Santa Claus)	2,000.00			36,105.86
12/17/12	Ed Rees (John Aurelia)	25.00			36,130.86
12/7/12	Ck# 79248 Vinnie Carr entertainment		(\$450.00)		35,680.86
12/7/12	Ck# 79246 Capellaro's	staff plus seniors	(\$525)		35,155.86
12/7/12	Ck# 79247 Capellaro,s deposit		(\$1,000.00)		34,155.86
12/19/12	AnnMarie Macey Donation	\$500.00			34,655.86
12/26/12	Michele Grandet(John Aurelia)	\$60.00			\$34,715.86
1/23/13	Trust Distribution			579.25	35,295.11
1/28/13	Gail Roberts (John Aurelia)	\$100.00			35,395.11
2/14/13	Donation	\$240			35,635.11
10/19/12	Trust Distribution			546.13	36,181.24



The Taunton Press

Inspiration for hands-on living®

63 South Main Street
P.O. Box 5506
Newtown, CT 06470-5506

March 13, 2013

Ms. Marilyn Place
Director of Senior Services
Newtown Senior Center
14 Riverside Road
Sandy Hook, CT 06482

Dear Ms. Place:

Please accept this donation from The Taunton Press and its' employees. We are pleased to support your organization's outstanding service to life of the senior population in our community.

Very truly yours,

Timothy Rahr
President

THE FACE OF THIS DOCUMENT HAS A COLORED BACKGROUND ON WHITE PAPER; A VOID PANTOGRAPH AND MICROPRINTING; THE BACK OF THIS DOCUMENT HAS AN ARTIFICIAL WATERMARK - HOLD AT AN ANGLE TO VIEW.



TAUNTON PRESS, INC.
63 S. Main Street
PO Box 5506
Newtown, CT 06470-5506

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
San Francisco, CA

CHECK NUMBER
42532

11-24
1210

VENDOR NO.: 4316

Three Hundred and 00/100 Dollars

CHECK DATE	CHECK NUMBER
03/01/2013	42532

CHECK AMOUNT
\$ *****300.00

TO THE
ORDER
OF

SENIOR CENTER OF NEWTOWN
RIVERSIDE DRIVE
SANDY HOOK CT 06482
USA

Authorized Signature

⑈00042532⑈ ⑆121000248⑆ 2000018007873⑈

**NEWTOWN SENIOR CENTER
Director of Senior Services
Feb 26, 2013 to March 18, 2013**

- Confer w/ police officer on senior driving issues
- Meet weekly with COA Strategic Team
- Confer w/ Municipal agent on a mutual client concerns
- Oversee all programming
- Program Shop
- Supervise trips
- Continue to plan excursions utilizing the senior van
- Confer w/ teachers on space issues
- Confer with RSVP on ongoing volunteer hours
- Continue community projects
- Facilitate quilting/sewing classes weekly
- Facilitate staff meetings when needed
- Facilitate Current Events/Hot Topics weekly
- Meet and greet new members
- Continue to assess the needs of the clients/members
- Continue to plan new programs for 2013
- Network w/ local agencies
- Work on Newsletter
- Meet w/ a variety of Tour companies for 2013 trips
- Set up new reading program w/ Children's Adventure Center
- Set up/ appointments for AARP income tax assistance from Feb to April 8th
- Set up AARP driving courses for the year
- Confer w/ local pharmacy on scheduling info topics periodically
- Partnership w/ Masonicare of Newtown on Grief 101 Forum

COMPLETED TRIPS:

- St Patrick's Day Celebration March 13

UPCOMING TRIPS:

- Westchester Broadway dinner Theatre "Guys and Dolls" rescheduled date May 30
- Planet & Space @ Museum of Natural History NYC April 4
- Woodloch Pines "A Day in Tuscany" April 17

OVERNIGHT TRIPS:

- Turning Stone Casino Irish Festival March 15-16
- Bermuda Cruise April 16-23
- Historic South Savannah GA & Charleston SC April 19-26
- Trans Atlantic Cruise (London/France/Ireland/Iceland/Faroe Island/Boston)
August 30-Sept 15-17 days on the Brilliance of the Seas
- American Queen Steamboat Jazz River Cruise "High Society" Oct 25-Nov 2

COMPLETED SPECIAL EVENTS:

- Who wants to be a Millionaire Trivia Feb 27
- St Patrick's day Luncheon March 15
- Info Talk on Stress and Hypertension March 18

SPECIAL EVENTS:

- Current Events / Hot Topics Every Tuesday @ 10:30
- AARP Income Tax Assistance on Monday mornings Feb 11- April 8
- Spanish Lessons 6 week course Continues April 4
- How To Stay Out of a Nursing Home March 20
- Grief 101 w/ Anne Marie Davenport @ Lockwood Lodge March 21
- Hat Day April 18 & 25
- Independent Living Day April 27
- Mother's Day Tea May 8

PROGRAMS**NUMBER OF ATTENDANTS**

Zumba Gold	29
Exercise	249
Floor Yoga (2 days)	31
Chair Yoga (2 day)	104
Cards	60
Mah Jongg	12
Chorus	8
Bingo	25
Lunch	153
Knitting	19
Cards for Troops	6
Iris Fold	16
Quilting	17
Board Games	16
Walk-Ins	54
Billiards/ping pong	8
Trips	32
Newsletter	
Wii	4
Painting/Art	15
Crafts	9
Scrabble	11
Tai Chi	30
Entertainment	
AARP Safe Driving	22
Ballroom Line dance	37
Current Events	12
Spanish Lessons	37
Reading CAC	9
Speakers	18
Taxes	32
Special Luncheon	30
Cards	60
Movie	8

Attendance Daily:

Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thurs	Friday
131	206	250	220	227

MONTHLY ATTENDANCE**1034**

1. **The new Spanish program is a success. When this 6 week course is finished, Louise Zierzow will continue for another 6 weeks. Starting April 4.**

2. **Great programs in March/April:**
 - a. **How to Stay Out of a Nursing Home**
Nancy Walker LPN, Geriatric Care Manager from Always Best Care Senior Services of Western CT will facilitate this program on March 20th @ 1:00.
 - b. **Grief 101 @ Lockwood Lodge March 21 9:30am – 11:30**
 - c. **Trish McDonald RN, Reiki Master, CYT, Yoga Therapist will be having a series of Health and Wellness talks**
 - d. **Sharon Mastrafra from HomeInstead will be conducting a 4 week Alzheimer seminar starting April 3, 10, 17, & 24 from 1-2. Includes a training course for family caregivers.**
 - e. **Hat Day ...Make a Victorian Hat for the Annual Tea April 18 & 25**

3. **The reading program at CAC is wonderful. Those who volunteer enjoy it as much as the children do. This continues on Monday's 3-4 and Thursday's 9:30-10:30.**

4. **All Income Tax assistance appointments are filled. All AARP safety driving courses are filled up to Sept. (w/ waiting lists) The new instructor for the Art class is very creative and class is filled.**
Slowly..... with Spring on the horizon...things are picking/looking up.

5. **I'm recruiting our volunteers to volunteer more here at the Center....such as answering the phones, re-doing song books, setting tables for the meal site , and esp. reading to the CAC children etc.**

Always busy!

Marilyn



Director of Social Services / Municipal Agent for the Elderly Report for March 18, 2013

Friday, March 15, 2013 was the last day to get a fuel delivery authorized. During the week we went through all of our applications and checked on the computer that they requested for all the deliveries they were entitled to. We will still be taking applications for people who heat with electric and Yankee Gas. We have completed a total of 239 fuel assistance applications as of today. One hundred five were for seniors and 37 for disabled.

Operation Fuel allocated \$5000 to Newtown Social Services. I have complete applications for low income clients and used the \$5000.00.

We are still receiving donation for the food pantry. Our pantry is pretty full at this time. I have approximately 18 seniors and 38 families which totals 62 people this month.

Danbury Hospital called that a Newtown resident was there because she had not taken her medication for several months. She has Medicare and signed up to the Part B last year and never signed up to Part D for prescriptions. We will complete a Medicare Savings application with her and it will take a couple of months to get approval and a Part D drug card. Salvation Army will pay for her medication totaling \$336.02 for this month. Newtown Pharmacy filled the prescriptions and completed all the discounts that they could. They also will give her the medication and I will get payment to them sometime next week.

I had a family with no water. The family has three children and elderly family members have been living in the house to care for the kids. The total cost was \$4594. Liz Stocker paid \$1500 out of housing, The Newtown Fund paid \$1500 and Social Services Gift Account paid the remainder of \$1594.00.

A ninety-five year old woman ran out of fuel. The high way with an okay from Fred Hurley put in some oil for one day. Operation Fuel granted a delivery up to the total cost of \$500. The oil company that delivered said the tank could only take eleven gallons. Tim Conlon went the next day and took the tank apart and put in new parts. I showed the bill to Operation Fuel and requested that the rest of the delivery be made. Operation Fuel Okayed it.

I have an elderly man living at Walnut Tree that we referred to Protective Services. A neighbor talked to me about what she was seeing. He has dementia and is falling and his refrigerator was empty. A family member does live in town and she had spoken to him. The elderly man tries to start his car and calls the Police Dept because he cannot start it. Now we have a police report. The family has done something to the car so he cannot drive it which is good for all of us.

I completed eight Medicaid applications, and thirteen redeterminations for Medicare Savings application. **MEDICARE SAVINGS PROGRAM** is now the name for QMB which pays for

3 MAIN STREET
NEWTOWN, CONNECTICUT 06470
TEL. (203) 270-4330
FAX (203) 270-4333

the supplemental insurance with the state but the doctor has to be a state provider. QMB and SLMB and ALMB pay for the Part B \$104.90 and the Part D for Prescriptions that is deducted from Social Security checks each month. They get extra help for their medications. This means that they pay only \$2.65 to \$6.60 per medication.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "An P...".