

Commission on Aging
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Monday, June 17, 2013 @ 5:00 pm

MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE COMMISSION ON AGING

The Commission on Aging held a regular meeting on Monday, June 17, 2013 at the Senior Center, 14 Riverside Road, Sandy Hook, Connecticut.

Chairman Curt Symes called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Members Present: JoAnne Albanesi, Karin Aurelia, LeReine Frampton, Margaret Imbro, Mary Ellen Lydem, Joan Plouffe, Curt Symes (Chair), Sheila Torres (Vice-Chair; **Member Excused:** Larry Schneider, Anne Rothstein and Joanne Davis,; **Support & Advisory Present:** Marilyn Place, Director of Senior Services; Ann Piccini, Municipal Agent for the Elderly; Linda Manganero, Nunnawauk Meadows.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – Mr. Symes suggested there be no changes to the summer schedule. He has been interacting with the media to feature articles on COA, Senior Center, Municipal Agent, Nunnawauk Meadows, etc. to provide more publicity for senior support mechanisms.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Ms. Lydem motioned to accept the minutes of the May 20, 2013 Meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Frampton . The minutes were approved as written.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT – Mr. Symes discussed his Chairman’s report (Attachment A) dated 6/17/13. He discussed improving the visibility of senior services in Newtown. He discussed continuing work of the Senior Resources Guide and asked the commissioners to think about funding options.

Mr. Symes and Ms. Imbro continue to work with other area CoA’s and discussed exploring an interest in hosting a CoA summit meeting at some point. The meeting would focus on sharing information and best practices ideas about meeting Senior needs. He then asked Ms. Place if area Senior Center Directors meet on a regular basis. Ms. Place said there is a quarterly meeting. He is hoping these initiatives will help expand senior involvement and more memberships

Ms. Place said she is hoping for up to 400 more registrants. Ms. Frampton and Ms. Torres discussed the importance of encouraging memberships. It was noted that the meals and flu shots should not require a membership, but perhaps the trips should. Several ideas were discussed. Ms. Place said the demographics are changing. Ms. Frampton asked Ms. Place about the attendance numbers and if they could be differentiated. Mr. Symes discussed the CT Elder Action Network stating there will be a legislative wrap up session on Tuesday June 25th from 10am to noon in the Legislative Office Building

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Senior Center/Facilities – Ms. Place provided the commissioners with a tour of the facilities explaining where improvements need to be done.

CoA Support of Parade, Library & Arts Festival – Ms. Torres team met and discussed events to gain visibility. She asked for volunteers to help at the table at the Library Book Sale, which is from July 13th to the 17th. She also discussed the parade and Cultural Arts Festival. It was a consensus of the commissioners that they should concentrate efforts with having a table at the Cultural Arts Festival. A tent will need to be purchased.

NEW BUSINESS

Funding of Senior Resources Guide & CoA Documents – See Chairman’s report.

CoA Process & Request for Appropriations – n/a

TREASURER’S REPORT (Attachment B to the original minutes) – Ms. Aurelia distributed and reviewed the Finance Department’s statement showing that the balance in the Commission on Aging Gift Fund as \$37,197.16.

DIRECTOR OF SENIOR SERVICES REPORT (Attachment C to the original minutes) – Ms. Place reviewed her report dated 6/17/13.

MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERY REPORT (Attachment D to the original minutes) – Ms. Piccini reviewed her report providing details on each item.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None.

ADJOURNMENT – Ms. Lydem motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Aurelia. The motion was carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Tammy Hazen, Clerk

Newtown Commission on Aging (CoA) - Chair's Report - 6/17/13 Meeting:

At the May 20 CoA Meeting we resolved all outstanding questions regarding the respective roles and responsibilities of the CoA and the Senior Center Director and are now working on a complementary approach to enhancing both the value and benefit of these entities to the Seniors of Newtown. In support of this effort I am in communications with the Newtown Bee, Voices News and Patch.com regarding a series of articles highlighting the CoA, Senior Center and Municipal Agent activities in Newtown. This will significantly raise visibility, both of and to Seniors, and we are looking toward a Senior-of-the-Month Recognition Program, as well as, an Active Adults & Seniors Forum.

We are continuing the CoA work on the Senior Resources Guide, currently soliciting funding, the Gift Policy/Planned Giving Program and the CoA Strategic Plan which along with the Newtown Senior demographics will allow us to begin to pursue Grants.

Regarding the state of Senior Center Facilities, progress is being made in addressing a number of outstanding issues.

As reported last month, the CoA is in contact with surrounding town CoAs exploring their interest in and the opportunity to host a CoA Summit Meeting later this year. This meeting would focus on sharing information and best practices ideas about meeting Senior needs. I will also be discussing the opportunity to get feedback on CT Senior Center best practices from the Senior Center Director.

In support of the Senior Center 2013-2014 Membership Registration drive now underway, we are anticipating that the above initiatives will help to expand senior involvement.

I propose that we will continue to meet through the summer to maintain momentum in preparation for the various town wide functions that we hope to have visibility in.

In conclusion, with the current social and economic pressures on today's society Elder Abuse, both financial and in caregiving, is now being reported at greater levels and innovative programs are being sought nationally to address.

We will continue to report both Newtown and local, relevant Senior information to the CoA, as well as, pertinent State of CT and National Aging/Senior events.

Subj: CT Elder Action Network (CEAN) 2013 Legislative Wrap-Up
Date: 6/17/2013 1:20:55 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
From: Deborah.Migneault@cga.ct.gov
To: Deborah.Migneault@cga.ct.gov

Join us!

Legislative Commission on Aging and the Connecticut Elder Action Network – CEAN
A dynamic group of leaders working to advance responsible public policy

Presents its:
2013 Legislative Session Wrap-Up
Plus an update on National Issues

Tuesday, June 25th
10am-12pm
Legislative Office Building, Room 2A
RSVP: coa@cga.ct.gov or 860-240-5200

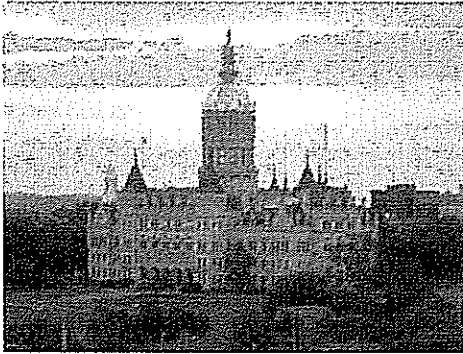
Please see the attached flyer for more information.

Connecticut Elder Action Network – CEAN

A dynamic group of leaders working to advance responsible public policy

Presents its:

2013 Legislative Session Wrap-up Plus an Update on National Issues



Tuesday, June 25th

10:00 am – 12 pm

Legislative Office Building, Room 2A

RSVP today via email to: coa@cga.ct.gov

Join us to learn about the state budget and aging-related legislation passed in the 2013 Session of the CGA ~ and explore various proposals under consideration before the U.S. Congress.

- Long-Term Services & Supports
- Alzheimer's Disease
- Renters' Rebate
- Consumer Issues
- Livable Communities
- Medicare

And more

CEAN Members:

Legislative Commission on Aging, chair
AARP-CT
Center for Medicare Advocacy, Inc.
CT Association of Area Agencies on Aging
CT Association of Senior Center Personnel

CT Coalition on Aging, Inc.
CT Community Care, Inc.
CT Legal Services
CT State Long-Term Care Ombudsman

Please RSVP via email: coa@cga.ct.gov, or call the
Legislative Commission on Aging: (860) 240-5200

COMMISSION ON AGING GIFT FUND						
DATE	RECEIPTS/DISBURSEMENTS	C/R	C/D	FRANK KNOTTS TRUST FUND	BALANCE	
as of June 17, 2013						
7/1/12	Beginning Balance				29,771.88	
7/1/12	Reverse Accts. Payable		263.52		30,025.40	
7/15/12	P-card		(263.52)		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	552.00			29,932.01	
10/4/12	Ck. #78314 Sheila Torres		(97.25)		29,834.76	
10/4/12	Ck. #78229 Elite Marketing		(790.00)		29,044.76	
10/19/12	Trust Distribution			546.13	29,590.89	
11/16/12	Cash Receipts	2,881.10			32,471.99	
11/28/12	Cash Receipts	1,365.00			33,836.99	
12/7/12	Ck. #79248 Vinnie Carr - entertainment		(450.00)		33,386.99	
12/7/12	Ck. #79246 Capellaro's		(525.00)		32,861.99	
12/7/12	Ck. #79247 Capellaro's		(1,000.00)		31,861.99	
12/18/12	J-39 Cash Receipts	1,045.00			32,906.99	
12/27/12	J-57 Cash Receipts	2,525.00			35,431.99	
1/9/13	J-56 Cash Receipts	60.00			35,491.99	
1/23/13	Trust Distribution			579.25	36,071.24	
1/29/13	J-153 Cash Receipts	100.00			36,171.24	

2/6/13	J-21 Cash Receipts	10.00			36,181.24
3/25/13	J-78 Cash Receipts	300.00			36,481.24
4/23/13	Trust Distribution			579.25	37,060.49
5/29/13	pcard - program supplies	Mother's day Tea	(446.33)		36,614.16
5/30/13	Ck. #81477 Claudia Landwehr - Pilates		(320.00)		36,294.16
5/30/13	Ck. #81487 Bob Mel		(125.00)		36,169.16
5/31/13	NSC T-shirts/bags	28.00			36,197.16
6/11/13	Lions Club Donation 6/5/13	1,000.00			37,197.16
		9,928.10	(4,753.58)	2,250.76	

**NEWTOWN SENIOR CENTER
Director of Senior Services
May 18, 2013 – June 17, 2013**

COA 6/17/13 Attachment C

- Meet /interview various entertainers for special programming
- Prepare for the 5th Annual Wii tournament schedule for Sept 4
- Facilitate special craft classes
- 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 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
- Continue to confer w/ a variety of Tour companies for 2013 trips
- Continue new reading program w/ Children's Adventure Center
- Confer w/ local pharmacy on scheduling info topics periodically
- Organize/set-up speakers for June- July
- Prepare/organize hearing screening

COMPLETED TRIPS:

- Westchester Broadway Dinner Theatre "Guys and Dolls" May 30
- Mohegan Sun May 23
- Colors of Summer June 27

UPCOMING TRIPS:

- Boston Pops @ Tanglewoods w/ Vince Gill July 7
- Wine and River Rose Paddleboat/Torches on the Hudson July 30
- Bobby Vinton @ The Aqua Turf August 13
- Rhode Island Lighthouse Cruise August 21

OVERNIGHT TRIPS:

- 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
- 3 days in Cape Cod June 24 – 26
- Lake George & Saratoga August 21-23

COMPLETED SPECIAL EVENTS:

- Bingo w/ Linda from Regional Hospice
- Free Hearing Screening w/ Ct Community Hearing Services
- Investment Fraud w/ Home Care Advantage & BBB (Better Business Bureau)

SPECIAL EVENTS:

- Current Events / Hot Topics Every Tuesday
- Celebrate Summer w/ Bob Mel entertainer June 18
- AARP Safety Driving Course July 12

PROGRAMS**NUMBER OF ATTENDANTS**

Zumba Gold	55
Exercise	369
Floor Yoga (2 days)	53
Chair Yoga (2 day)	78
Cards	60
Mah Jongg	23
Chorus	31
Bingo	42
Lunch	167
Knitting	26
Cards for Troops	6
Iris Fold	8
Quilting	6
Board Games	4
Walk-Ins	124
Billiards/ping pong	51
Trips	111
Newsletter	
Wii	29
Painting/Art	15
Crafts	
Scrabble	11
Tai Chi	33
Entertainment	50
AARP Safe Driving	
Ballroom Line dance	28
Current Events	27
Spanish Lessons	34
Reading CAC	6
Speakers	53
Hearing Screening	36
Chair Pilates	28
Weight Strengthening	12

Attendance Daily:

Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thurs	Friday
232	255	384	312	332

MONTHLY ATTENDANCE

1515

The outdoor planters, patio urns and the corner garden all have been beautified!
It really makes a difference. The planters and benches were painted.
I planted right after Memorial Day. The seniors love the variety of flowers chosen.
Cost for all plants were \$302.44.
Labor of love, free.
Enjoyment, priceless.

The 2 new classes chair pilates and weight strengthening facilitated by Claudia Landwehr has fit right in w/ all the fitness "gurus". The seniors like the variety/options and I believe in time the #'s will spread out evenly in all exercise classes. For the 2 classes for May cost \$320.

The free Hearing Screening w/ Ct Community Hearing Service was a huge success. 36 seniors took advantage of this screening. For those who failed the screening received a free comprehensive testing at the office in Danbury by appt.

Jackie MacKnight from the Better Business Bureau gave an interesting talk on info/points how to avoid fraud and scams, from investments to telephone calls. She gave the Center a DVD on the presentation so I can show and/or do another presentation for those who missed it this time. Was very informative.

The Statewide Annual Senior Outing @ Holiday Hill will be Monday August 19 from 9-4 all inclusive for \$29.00.
Again, this year I will go over senior names w/ Ann Piccini to sponsor some seniors who can't afford it. Staff will also be sponsored.
Transportation will be the same again this year w/ round trip deluxe motor coach transportation cost is \$675 (\$15 increase from last year).
The NSC van will also be utilized for the handicapped.

On Fridays a group of seniors (16) hop on the van and go exploring to neighboring towns and try different shops, diners and restaurants. They enjoy it! So far they have been to Capts. Cove in Black Rock, The Curtis House in Woodbury, Dottie's Diner in Woodbury, R,W & B in Waterbury, STS Greenhouse in Southbury. Next stop is the Portuguese Club in Danbury. Places they haven't been before, the list is growing. The van faithfully goes to all ice cream shops on Tuesdays.

The Newtown Lions Club made a \$1000 donation on June 5
When Kevin Corey (Lions member) was here to present the check it happened to be on a full scale exercise day. I introduce him and so many members personally
Thanked him (Lions) for all they do and have done! It was very nice for Kevin to meet so many and to see them enjoying the Center. Good day.

All classes are doing good.
Busy, busy, busy.
Happy Summer!

Marilyn



Newtown Lions Club
Foundation, Inc.
PO Box 218
Newtown, CT 06470

June 5 20 13

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Newtown Senior Center
One Thousand and 00/100

\$ 1,000.00

DOLLARS

EXP. DATE
PRINTED

Raymond Keegan
Bertha M Corey

FOR _____

MP

Director of Social Services / Municipal Agent for the Elderly Report for June 17, 2013

I have been allocated \$3000.00 for Operation Fuels summer program. This is only for electric. I have only \$720.00 left. Operation Fuel is a nonprofit and they will not be giving any other funds till the winter program.

The sixty-five year old man that I have been helping is almost settled into his new place. He still needs a pillow, towels, shower curtain and bath mat. Everything he has is ancient from his parents. I have one more trip to the Highway Storage to take a few more pieces of furniture. He doesn't have a vehicle so I am helping him. His wish list is a TV and if I can get a donated VHS tape player he could play VHS tapes. Nunnawauk gave me a box of used tapes. After his rent which includes utilities he has \$185.00 left for the month.

I have two separate cases, one an elderly man and an elderly woman to help reapply for Ct Home Care.

I have two very sick women that I am helping apply for benefits to get home care. Also help with some outstanding bills.

One woman has a brain tumor and is in critical condition. Her husband and daughter have been taking turns to stay home from work to take care of her. When the husband is working he is over income for any help and he needs to work for the medical benefit.

The other woman has stage 4 cancer and right now services are coming in. Payment for the services is questionable.

Since January we have had four men and one woman come in that have been diagnosed with cancer and cannot work due to their medical treatments. Looking for programs to help pay their bills.

I have started taking Renter Rebate applications for the elderly and totally disabled. This is a State of Connecticut application for renters that are low income. They receive a check in November for the calculation of their income and expenses of rent and fuel for the year 2012. They have to have lived in Connecticut for the year 2012. I need proof of all income and expenses. I have completed 19 applications.

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