

**Commission on Aging
Regular Meeting
Monday, February 22, 2016 @ 5:00 p.m.**

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

The Commission on Aging held a regular meeting on Monday, February 22, 2016 at the Senior Center, 14 Riverside Road, Sandy Hook, CT. Chairman Curt Symes called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

Present: Curt Symes, Sheila Torres, John Boccuzzi, Margaret Imbro, Barbara Bloom, Anna Wiedemann, Anne Rothstein, Ruby Ryles, Lisa Krauss, George Guidera

Absent: Mae Schmidle, Claire Theune

Also Present: Marilyn Place, Ann Piccini, Linda Manganaro, and 3 members of the public

BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mr. Symes introduced George Guidera who was newly appointed to the COA. He stated that there are still quite a number of people interested in getting involved with the COA. He reminded everyone that February is American Heart Month; there is literature available outside the Health Department at the Municipal Center.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Sudha Gupta commented that he would like to see more money available for seniors from the Town for more classes and speakers. He feels there is an imbalance in priorities. Mr. Symes agreed and said there is no immediate solution to this; if facilities are expanded, then expanded programs will follow.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

Ms. Bloom made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from January 25, 2016, seconded by Ms. Imbro and unanimously approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: (Attachment A) - Mr. Symes highlighted his report. The Senior Dinner and Basketball Game at NHS had an excellent turnout. Newtown's Poet Laureate, Lisa Schwartz, is looking to identify a Senior Poet to participate in and represent the Seniors of Newtown in an April town-wide event.

He reported that the Community Center Commission (CCC) has formulated its final recommendation to be presented to the Board of Selectmen, Legislative Council and Board of Finance. Part of the recommendation includes "consideration of utilizing an additional \$2.5 million in next year's CIP to underwrite a second phase add-on senior center or ice rink

component". Mr. Boccuzzi voted "no" on the motion including amendments; however, he wanted to clarify that the amendments presented were very confusing. Mr. Symes said that there are still a lot of confused seniors out there and he will be scheduling Senior Forums & Information Sessions to help the Seniors of Newtown understand and gain their support for both the Community Center Proposal and evolving plan for a New Senior Center.

FEATURED GUEST – CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION (CAC): Laura Lerman (Chair) and Andrea Spencer (Vice Chair) introduced themselves and explained the CAC's mission to advocate and support the arts. Their Commission offers two \$1,000 grants and two \$1,000 scholarships; they organize the art shows at the Municipal Center as well as exhibits at the Library. Ms. Spencer stated that they want to work closely with the COA to bring seniors to the arts. She asked about the viability of using the Senior Center Bus as transportation for seniors to events. She said that several All-Star bus drivers have expressed interest in driving. Ms. Place stated that the bus must be driven by a Town employee. Mr. Symes and Ms. Lerman said Carole Ross, Newtown HR Director, would be the source of information regarding who can drive the bus.

Ms. Lerman spoke about the upcoming Arts Festival; there will be a kickoff meeting this Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the Old Courtroom at Edmond Town Hall. Mr. Symes will be attending and she is hoping other COA members will get involved. She also offered to arrange a Senior Art Show at the Municipal Center. Ms. Place will speak to seniors and let her know about scheduling the event.

TREASURER'S REPORT: (Attachment B) – Ms. Wiedemann presented her report.

Mr. Boccuzzi made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Ms. Imbro and unanimously approved.

Ms. Wiedemann stated that she received a letter from LeReine Frampton requesting that funds be allocated from the Gift Fund to cover the cost of several luncheons she would like to hold at Nunnawauk Meadows. Before this can be approved, Ms. Frampton will be asked to coordinate the luncheons with Linda Manganaro and Marilyn Place, as a courtesy.

DIRECTOR OF SENIOR SERVICES REPORT: (Attachment C) – Ms. Place reported she is working on a "Senior Prom" at Nunnawauk Meadows to be held on May 20th sponsored by the Senior Center, Nunnawauk Meadows, and Parks & Recreation. She distributed a brochure on a "Motion Wellness" which is an exercise system which includes stations to improve senior health. She feels it is worth looking into. On April 8th, there will be a Lunch and Learn program called "Fostering Senior Dogs". The program sponsored by the Catherine Violet Hubbard Foundation will be asking seniors to foster senior dogs.

MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY: (Attachment D) - Ms. Piccini reported that fuel applications are ongoing. She distributed some information on transitioning to Medicare from MAGI Medicaid. She also reported that a man called and offered to plow for up to six

households that are low income and/or seniors who could use the help. So far, three seniors have taken advantage of the offer.

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion on 2016 COA Priorities – Ms. Torres reviewed what was discussed at last month’s meeting. Four priorities were identified: 1) Grant Funding and Fundraising (for programs and facilities); 2) Senior Space (programming outside of Senior Center); 3) Communication; and 4) Create, Foster or Support a Senior Advocacy Group. Communication includes launching a quarterly COA newsletter; a Senior Fair; Adult Communities Outreach; and Revision of COA By-Laws.

Update on Communications Plan - Ms. Ryles, Ms. Place and Ms. Piccini attended a focus group which included Senior Centers from Newtown, Bethel, and New Milford and Social Services from Newtown and New Milford. They shared ideas on the potential area Senior Website which would serve as a hub for 10 surrounding towns. Each town would be responsible for a one-time charge of \$7,500.00 as well as yearly maintenance fee of a few hundred dollars. The website will be a convenient way for seniors to see what is going on in their town as well as surrounding areas, the region of Western CT and CT State and National activities. Ms. Ryles will provide more detailed information at the next COA meeting.

Update on Grants – Mr. Boccuzzi reported that the deadline for the WCAAA Title 3b grant is March 15th. One suggestion was to offer a self-defense course for seniors which could be funded by this grant. Mr. Boccuzzi also distributed information on COA Project Grant Options. A Regional Initiative could include some type of Art Therapy. There are some matching requirements involved with this type of grant and Mr. Boccuzzi will look into it further.

Mr. Guidera mentioned a senior outreach program that he became aware of in the town of Fairfield, having to do with snow shoveling for seniors. He will be getting more info for the COA.

There being no further business, **Ms. Bloom made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 p.m.**, seconded by Ms. Imbro and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann LoBosco, Clerk

AH. A

Newtown Commission on Aging (COA) - Chairman Report - 2/22/16 Meeting

Welcome to our February COA Meeting and American Heart Month - a reminder to both Seniors and Caregivers to focus on their family's heart health.

As I announced, George Guidera has been appointed to the COA and we are now at full membership. George brings an extensive background of knowledge, being a Practicing Attorney, former First Selectman of Weston and CT State Legislator. Recently, we are seeing increase interest on the part of Newtown residents in volunteering their skills to the COA.

This year's Senior (65+) Dinner and Basketball Game at NHS on February 9 was another culinary delight, drawing an excellent turnout.

Newtown Continuing Education has just released its Spring Catalog of Courses with an expanded curriculum for Boomers & Seniors of all ages.

Our featured guest and fellow commission this month is Newtown Cultural Arts with whom we have now had a 3 year working relationship on the September Newtown Arts Festival and related activities. The Newtown Poet Laureate, Lisa Schwartz, has inquired if we can identify a Senior Poet to participate in and represent the Seniors of Newtown in an April town-wide event.

We will be continuing our collective work on 2016 COA Priorities and staffing out the related research teams, as well as, updating on status of Grants, Charter Revision and By-Laws work-in-process.

Regarding our activities and plans for improved, timely communication to the Seniors of Newtown, we will be discussing recent meetings with web providers and current capabilities for disseminating information.

The Community Center Commission (CCC) has now completed its 4 forums and has formulated its final recommendations for presentation to the BOS, LC and BOF in March with hope of a town referendum in April. I want to thank all of the Seniors of Newtown who attended the NCCC Forums and shared their views on the proposed options. Their focused and factual senior comments and statements along with our COA lobbying have gone a long way in influencing the current recommendations and thinking on the part of town officials, regarding Senior Needs for both Shared CC Space and a New Dedicated Senior Center at FFH close to the New CC Space which will be expanded beyond the initial 13,000 sq. ft. originally reported.

I am attaching The Newtown Bee 2/13/16 electronic article and 2/19/16 front-page article by John Voket, highlighting the vehicle for funding a New Senior Center via next year's CIP allocation of \$2.5M.

If this funding is going to become our "Senior Center" reality, then we, the Seniors of Newtown - all 3,500 over age 65 or 5,000 over 60, need to stand up, continue to voice our opinions to our District

Legislative Council representatives and lobby for this commitment that has been in the works for over 10 years now.

In the coming weeks & months the COA will be conducting Senior Forums & Information Sessions, helping residents to understand the real value, cost and quality of life implications of a New Senior Center to the greater Newtown Community.

Finally, as Chair of the COA, I will be actively participating in and representing the views of the Senior of Newtown in the upcoming BOS, LC and BOF Reviews, regarding both the next steps on the Community Center and the follow-on Phased Planning, ideally leading to our Senior Center Vision.

Respectfully submitted,

Curt Symes

Chair, Newtown COA

Newtown Bee Article – 2/19/16 CCC Proposal & Consideration of a New Senior Center

Community Center Commission Endorses Vision For New Facility

February 13, 2016

John Voket

After months of surveys about a soon-to-be-built community center, the last of numerous public forums, a Saturday afternoon meeting stretching over three-and-a-half hours, several motions and a half-dozen requested amendments, the Newtown Community Center Commission has approved a package of recommendations that will go to the Board of Selectmen, possibly as soon as March 7.

The final commission recommendation will include:

- *Development of an aquatic center featuring a 50 meter competition-ready swimming pool, and a separate zero-entry recreation pool;

- *A community center facility that is as large as can be completed with the balance of available funds;

- *Utilizing both the \$10 million building allocation in a GE gift, along with \$5 million already approved for community center development in the current Town Capital Improvement Plan (CIP);

- *Consideration of utilizing an additional \$2.5 million in next year's CIP to underwrite a second phase add-on senior center or ice rink component, if approved, and;

- *That "legacy groups" be given dedicated space within the center.

Commission member and 12/14 parent David Wheeler previously told *The Bee* that the families of those killed had requested dedicated space where legacy organizations that formed out of the tragedy could offer their information to the public.

The commission's final motion including accepted amendments passed on an 8-2 vote with Commissioner Bill Buchler and John Boccuzzi opposing. Mr Wheeler and Mr Cox had family

commitments and had to leave before the final vote, but the remaining commissioners were all in attendance and supported Brian Leidlein's motion.

The commission recommendation to selectmen is somewhat more detailed, but nonetheless similar to one that was poised at the design stage before community members expressed concerns. First Selectman Pat Llodra responded by postponing a referendum authorizing spending of a General Electric gift to create a town community center, and appointing the Community Center panel to gather as much public input as possible before recommending a plan to move forward with development.

Pools Versus Ice

While the panel's original motion offered by Mr Wheeler was voted down after his departure, its inclusion of a two-pool aquatic component as a primary feature carried through to the end.

Most of the commissioners also supported an amendment in an earlier failed motion that "mandated" spending approximately \$37,000 so a private firm could conduct a feasibility study on whether to fast-track an ice rink component. That add-on rink would be funded by the extra \$2.5 million allocated for community center development in the 2017 CIP.

After the final vote, each remaining commissioner was polled on the top priority elements they wanted to see in the finished plan.

Commissioner Andrew Clure echoed the input of most on the panel supporting the 50m pool as a top consideration. Mr Clure said he "would be thrilled" if the pools could be oriented with at least one wall of windows or doors facing open space to create an open wall effect to the surrounding outdoors.

He also supported the concept of featuring some sort of retail cafe in the building.

Commissioner Sheila Torres supported the 50m pool with the "window wall/door" concept, as well as a zero-entry second pool. She also lobbied for large common areas and multipurpose spaces.

Common Gathering Area

Commissioner Sean Dunn went even further, prioritizing that a central common area be free for all community members, with the possible addition of outside benches, fire pits, and three-season gathering areas. Mr Dunn also would require the town hire an outside director with experience or expertise operating a combined community/aquatic facility.

Mr Leidlein backed the hiring of an experienced facilities director as his top consideration, along with a 50m pool and the development of large indoor and outdoor common areas for community members' use.

Commissioner Bill Buchler added that the facility should include a commercial kitchen, and added his voice supporting a retail or restaurant development. Mr Buchler, who maintained strong support for an ice rink component throughout the meeting, also supported making the

initial facility expandable or connectable to other future components like an ice, senior, arts or other facility.

Commissioner Carla Kron introduced the idea of outfitting the facility in the event it needed to be used as an emergency evacuation or disaster shelter. Ms Kron also favored including a commercial kitchen, facilities for mental health or disabled support services, proper acoustic design and equipment for concerts or other cultural uses.

Commissioner Kinga Walsh suggested expanding any site development to include future ice rink planning in order to ensure site work is done “just once.” Ms Walsh also supported installation of high end IT, sound and A/V equipment, along with creating at least one soundproof room.

Mr Boccuzzi called for an energy efficient, easy-to-maintain facility with expandability or a direct connection to a 12,000 square foot senior center to be built. Commissioner Nicole Hockley added that the facility must be environmentally friendly, utilizing sustainability features like solar heat and power generation, and rainwater collection.

Frustrating Moments

Preceding the vote, a lengthy and ranging discussion played out among the 12 commissioners, who all appeared to be working hard to try to meet most town constituent requests. At one moment, however, frustration simmered to the point where Mr Buchler found himself apologizing for cursing.

As deliberation moved into offering motions, commissioners twice forwarded a main proposal, suggested amendments, and then opted to vote down the motions with the intent of refining language in subsequent motions even more precisely.

Prior to his departure, Mr Wheeler said it would be important throughout the remaining process of development, that the committee, town officials, and residents work to derail three misunderstandings: that square footage equals program capability and value; and that self sustainability equals profitability.

He said that subscribing to that particular assumption would be “a huge mistake.” Then, after taking a moment, Mr Wheeler addressed one resident’s earlier suggestion that the community center itself serve as a memorial by planting 26 trees outside the facility to honor those lost on 12/14.

“There is only one constituent – and that is the only one that matters related to (making the center) a memorial,” Mr Wheeler said. “I appreciate a desire to turn it into that – but it’s not a good idea.”

‘Big Picture Vision’

On the subject of the GE gift, Ms Walsh told fellow commissioners, “we need to reiterate this gift is a big picture vision, not a box worth \$10 million. It’s the town that will bring a community center here, not GE.”

During discussion, Ms Hockley, also a 12/14 parent, observed that a lot of young in town are not involved in sports. She also took issue over a suggestion that there was not enough opportunity provided for parents to weigh in on desired community center features.

Ms Hockley said she believed parents had ample opportunities to complete surveys and even provide input on behalf of their own kids. And she added that the town would be “doing a massive disservice to older kids,” by not providing a place they could go at the center where they could get support or information if they are facing health or social concerns.

As he prepared to leave earlier on in the discussion – coincidentally to drive to his child’s hockey game – Mr Cox said he would support an option including a pool and community center facility of some usable size. But he also asserted his support for a feasibility study.

“That would be valuable information, and third-party validation of the work we’ve done so far,” he said.

Mr Cox also requested the commission and town not preclude the option of staging in the event possible future donors wanted to cover the cost of add-ons.

“I’d prefer an ice rink over a pool,” he said, “but I think I’m in the minority.”

Related Articles

AH. B

SENIOR SERVICES GIFT FUND

DATE	RECEIPTS/DISBURSEMENTS	CR	CO	FRANK KNOTTIS TRUST FUND	NEW SENIOR CENTER	GRANT	BALANCE
7/1/15	Beginning Balance						43,169.00
7/6/2015	DONATION- TAUNTON PRESS- T-3319		150.00				43,319.00
7/6/2015	DONATION- NEWTOWN LIONS CLUB- T-3320		1,000.00				44,319.00
7/8/2015	TRUST DISTRIBUTION- T-5727			598.40			44,917.40
7/5/2015	CA #18567- Holiday Inv(3 STAFF/GUESTS)	(310.00)					44,607.40
7/5/2015	CA #18532- Alan Dovelaris(White House Speaker)	(100.00)					44,507.40
8/1/2015	S.C. TEE SHIRT- T-6935		10.00				44,517.40
9/17/2015	CA #20233 Arthur Gaidels- Holiday Prns. Sept/Oct/Nov	(330.00)					44,187.40
10/2/2015	TRUST DISTRIBUTION- T-23697			598.40			44,785.80
10/29/2015	CA #20028- CS Consulting & Services	(125.00)					44,660.80
10/29/2015	CA #20075- Image One	(495.60)					44,165.20
11/1/2015	CA #21130- Rafael Spammala- Music Therapy	(150.00)					44,015.20
11/1/2015	CA # 21092- Michaela At the Grove- Deposit for Xmas party	(200.00)					43,815.20
11/9/2015	Annual Holiday Bazaar- T28700		2,463.75				46,278.95
11/30/2015	Bazaar Mehla T30055		50.00				46,328.95
12/3/2015	CA #21428- Michael's At The Grove- Holiday Party	(725.00)					45,603.95
12/3/2015	CA #21428- Sean McKee- DJ for Holiday Party	(250.00)					45,353.95
12/8/2015	Bazaar mehla T-32152		20.00				45,373.95
12/10/2015	CA #21526- Rafael Spammala- Music for Dec 18	(150.00)					45,223.95
12/18/2015	Holiday Bazaar Raffle- T-34351		310.00				45,533.95
12/1/2016	TRUST DISTRIBUTION- T-37791			557.46			43,265.61
			4,003.75	1,754.26			46,091.41
GRANT-KYCAA							
7/29/2015	ck #18744-Claudia Landwehr					(200.00)	
7/29/2015	ck #19721-Susan Bradley					(200.00)	
7/29/2015	ck #19723-Eileen Bynoe					(200.00)	
8/6/2015	ck#19638-Susan Bradley					(160.00)	
8/6/2015	ck#19640-Eileen Bynoe					(160.00)	
8/6/2015	ck#19675-Claudia Landwehr					(160.00)	
9/7/2015	Grant Received						1,050.00
9/10/2015	CK# 20185- Eileen Bynoe						(160.00)
9/17/2015	CK #20260- Claudia Landwehr						(160.00)
9/17/2015	CK # 20183- Susan Bradley						(160.00)
9/17/2015	Grant Received						460.00
10/15/2015	CK #20602- Susan Bradley						(160.00)
10/15/2015	CK #20606- Eileen Bynoe						(120.00)
10/15/2015	CK #20697- Claudia Landwehr						(260.00)
11/2/2015	Grant Received						460.00
11/1/2015	CK# 20185- Eileen Bynoe						(120.00)
11/1/2015	CK #20593- Eileen Bynoe						(120.00)
11/1/2015	CK #21076- Claudia Landwehr						(160.00)
12/10/2015	CA #21454- Eileen Bynoe						(160.00)
12/10/2015	CK #21500- Claudia Landwehr						(160.00)
12/10/2015	CA #21452- Susan Bradley						(120.00)
12/7/2016	CK #21970- Eileen Bynoe						(120.00)
12/7/2016	CK #21958- Susan Bradley						(200.00)
12/7/2016	CK #22007- Claudia Landwehr						(200.00)

{1,360,00}

COMPLETED EVENTS:

- AARP Income Tax assistance Feb 8 – April 11th.
- Red Dress Friday “Heart Healthy” Presentation Feb 19 @ 1:00
- Valentine Iris Fold Feb 8

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- AARP Income Tax assistance Feb 8 – April 11th
- New reading program w/ CAC Feb 25
- Cultural Speaker on Harry S. Truman March 10
- Lunch and Laughter Mad Libs March 11
- AARP Safety Driver Program March 20
- Lunch and Lecture on Foot Care March 22
- “Walking on Eggshells” The Journey of a Caregiver, interactive discussion April 20

TRIPS:

- Florida March 6-17
- Irish Eyes are Smiling @ Ace in the Hole productions trip March 17
- UCONN Women’s Basketball AAC March 6
- Mohegan Sun March 8
- Log Cabin In Northampton, Ma “Eight to the Bar” April 7
- Smoky Mnts. & Nashville, TN April 10-17
- Westchester Broadway Dinner Theatre “Man of La Mancha” April 21

New programs:

1. Pottery Class starts March 9 continues for 24 classes every other Wed. 1-4
2. Inter-generational craft program w/ CAC ongoing every 2nd Thursday
3. Bible Study Wednesdays @ 2:30
4. Mornings with Marilyn ongoing every morning
5. Keno sponsored by Golden Opportunities every 1st Wednesday @ 2:00
6. Inter-generational “Tips and Tricks on everyday technology” ongoing every Friday @ 2:30
7. Reading program w/ CAC every 4th Thursday @ 10:00
8. Ongoing Hot Dog luncheon once a month

More Upcoming Events for Seniors:

The New Pottery Class will begin Wednesday March 9 1-4. 17 seniors have signed up. All are members or became members to take this class.

Lunch and Learns will continue with some great info seminars:

1. Comprehensive Foot Care Tues March 22 @ 12 with Dr. Hang Huynh
2. Mad Lib Learn and Laugh Luncheon w/ Masonicare March 11 12:00
3. Fostering Senior Dogs, The Catherine Violet Hubbard Foundation April 8 12:00
4. Journey of a Caregiver April 20 11:30

Cultural History Series continues w/ Arhtur Gottlieb LSCW

March 10 President Truman

April 14 Eisenhower Interstate System

May 12 Chrysler Building

1. Entertainment w/Alan Feldman singer/entertainer “A little bit of this and a little bit of that” March 16
2. Senior Appreciation Day is Saturday April 16, we will celebrate on Friday April 15.
3. Annual Mother’s Day Tea is Friday May 6th besides tea and bingo we will be having a “surprise” fashion show.
4. “Senior Prom” @ Nunnawauk Meadows, sponsored by Newtown Senior Center, Nunnawauk Meadows, & Parks and Rec , May 20 4-8pm more info to follow

Keeping the seniors busy and active.

Marilyn





AH. D

Ann Piccini <ann.piccini@newtown-ct.gov>

Commission on Aging Meeting February 22,2016

1 message

Ann Piccini <ann.piccini@newtown-ct.gov>

Fri, Feb 19, 2016 at 4:15 PM

To: Curt Symes <CurtSymes@aol.com>

Municipal Agent for the Elderly / Director of Social Services

Community Action Agency of Western Ct State Fuel applications completed One Hundred Ninety One. Ninety two are for seniors and thirty four for disabled. We can check on the computer that our elderly clients have called for their second requests so they do not run out of fuel.

Each year we go through the same problems with applicants calling their fuel company for the delivery and not the Fuel Assistance Program to get the delivery authorized. We write it out for them but they do not follow directions. They receive a bill and come in with why am I getting a bill. We notify fuel assistance which then makes the adjustments on the persons account.

We had a retired man call and offer to plow for up to six households that are low income. We gave him three seniors and one family that the husband passed away recently. So far he has only had to plow two times.

On Feb. 3rd, I attended with Marilyn a very interesting focus group regarding the Danbury Senior Centers Web Site.

I will be handing out information from Medicare Rights. Transitioning to Medicare from MAGI Medicaid through the Marketplace.

We are also completed twenty-six Medicare Savings Applications, eight Food Stamps and twelve Health insurance applications.

Transitioning from MAGI Medicaid to Medicare

What is the difference between MAGI and non-MAGI (traditional) Medicaid?

Medicaid is low-cost health insurance for individuals who meet certain financial eligibility requirements.

MAGI (Modified Adjusted Gross Income) Medicaid

*For individuals with **income below 138 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)**, including:

- childless adults ages 19-64
- individuals who are pregnant (the income limit is higher for these individuals)
- children up to age 19 (or 21 depending on the state)
- parent and relative caretakers

*Overseen by the Marketplaces

*Eligibility guidelines are less strict than traditional Medicaid:

- **Resources and assets are not counted**

NOTE: Specific budgeting for traditional Medicaid may depend on state rules. A person can contact their local Medicaid office for more details.

Non-MAGI (traditional) Medicaid

*For individuals with **income below around 87 percent of the FPL**, including:

- those who are 65 years or older
- those with disabilities and/or blindness
- individuals in need of long-term care (LTC)
- individuals who fall into a "medically needy" category
- former foster care youth

*Generally those who are Medicare-eligible fall into the traditional Medicaid category

*Typically administered by the local Medicaid office

*Eligibility guidelines are stricter than MAGI Medicaid:

- **Resources and assets are counted**
- People receiving MAGI Medicaid may be found ineligible for traditional Medicaid

Can someone have Medicaid and Medicare?

Yes. Medicare acts as primary insurance to Medicaid (MAGI and non-MAGI), meaning Medicare pays first for covered services, and Medicaid pays for remaining costs of covered services.

Medicare has more consumer costs associated with it than Medicaid and may not provide coverage for as many services. Those transitioning from MAGI Medicaid to Medicare (with or without traditional Medicaid) should understand coverage and cost differences between the two programs.

On the back of this flier we explain the transition process from MAGI Medicaid to Medicare. For more information on Medicaid and how it works with Medicare, visit www.medicareinteractive.org.



Transitioning from MAGI Medicaid to Medicare

Step 1: Receive notice of MAGI Medicaid ending

- Notice should be mailed from the Marketplace and contain next steps
- Call Marketplace if unsure of when MAGI Medicaid is ending

Step 2: Enroll in Medicare

- If not automatically enrolled, enroll in Medicare Parts A and B by contacting Social Security (800-772-1213)
- Medicare is now the primary form of insurance, and Medicaid is secondary
- At this point, individual may be evaluated for traditional Medicaid and a Medicare Savings Program (MSP), or this may happen later
- Call Marketplace if unsure of when evaluation for traditional Medicaid and an MSP will happen, and to learn about any needed paperwork
- Individuals may automatically receive full Extra Help, which automatically enrolls them in a Medicare Part D drug plan

Step 3: If not evaluated in Step 2, submit any needed paperwork to the Marketplace and/or Medicaid

- Paperwork should trigger an evaluation for traditional Medicaid
- Individual's case should be transitioned to their local Medicaid office

Step 4: Paperwork triggers evaluation for traditional Medicaid

- Individual may be evaluated for traditional Medicaid and an MSP
- If individual does not receive paperwork from their Marketplace, call Marketplace to confirm the transition process
- Individual may be able to continue receiving MAGI Medicaid benefits during transition process—check with Marketplace
- Individual may be able to receive state reimbursement for their Part B premiums during transition process—check with Marketplace

Step 5: Receive decision

- Individual should receive information from their local Medicaid office about whether they are eligible for traditional Medicaid and/or an MSP
- Four possible outcomes:
 - Transition from MAGI Medicaid to Medicare with traditional Medicaid and an MSP
 - Transition from MAGI Medicaid to Medicare with an MSP and without traditional Medicaid
 - Transition from MAGI Medicaid to Medicare without traditional Medicaid or an MSP
 - In limited circumstances, receive Medicare and remain in MAGI Medicaid

Questions to ask your state's marketplace during the transition process:

- When will the individual be evaluated for traditional Medicaid and an MSP?
- Does the individual have to actively request/complete any materials to be evaluated?
- What sort of materials should the individual expect to receive about the evaluation process?
- Is the individual eligible to receive reimbursement for Medicare Part B premiums through their state while transitioning, and, if so, what steps, if any, do they need to take to get the reimbursement?
- Has the individual been or will they be auto-enrolled into Extra Help and a Part D plan?

2017 Office of the Arts GrantSATS-A-GLANCE

COA Project Grant Options					
A	B	C	E	F	
Regional Initiative	Arts Learning	Arts & Community Impact	Public Art Community Projects	Supporting Arts in Place	Operating Support
<p>Arts-based community projects that invite & support public participation in the creative process. This program is administered by COA's nine regional art service organizational partners.</p>	<p>Arts in education-based projects that engage partners to advance teaching and learning in, about, and through the arts, through high quality arts engagement, arts integration, arts exploration and discovery experiences in a defined community setting.</p>	<p>New or significantly adapted arts-based projects that create or sustain a meaningful relationship with a non-arts stakeholder(s) to effectively connect specific, intrinsic values of the arts to identifiable community need, interest or opportunity.</p>	<p>Provides funding for community based public art projects</p>	<p>Predominantly unrestricted operating support determined via funding calculations primarily generated from organizational data.</p>	
<p>\$1,000 up to \$4,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arts Organization* Arts Program of a (501-c-3) non-arts organization Connecticut Artist Municipal Dept. (A, B, Q) Pre-K-12 Schools PTOs <p>* Arts organizations with annual income less than \$300,000</p>	<p>\$5,000 up to \$20,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> After-School program Arts Organization Arts Organization with fiscal sponsor Arts program of a 501(c) (3) non-arts organization Colleges and Universities Connecticut Artist with a fiscal sponsor Municipal Departments Parent/Teacher Organization Pre-K-12 school School District 	<p>\$5,000 up to \$10,000</p> <p>ELIGIBLE TIER ONE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Artist (w/Fiscal Sponsor) Artist Groups without 501-c-3 status (w/Fiscal Sponsor) Arts Organization Arts Program of a 501-c-3 non-arts organization College or University Municipal Dept. (A, B, Q) <p>\$10,000 up to \$20,000</p> <p>ELIGIBLE TIER TWO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arts Organization Municipal Dept. (C) 	<p>\$5,000 up to \$20,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arts Organization Arts Organization with fiscal sponsor Arts program of a 501(c) (3) non-arts organization Colleges and Universities Connecticut Artist with a fiscal sponsor CT Artist using their legal business entity (LLC, Inc, etc.) Municipal Departments Parent/Teacher Organization Pre-K-12 school School District After-School Program 	<p>Applicants do not request a grant amount.</p> <p>Awards are computed mathematically based on applicant-provided data. Eligible applicants receive an award based on: (1) available funds (allocated to this category), (2) total number of eligible applicants, (3) calculations made from the aggregate data collected.</p> <p>ELIGIBLE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arts Organization Municipal Dept. (B & Q) 	
<p>25% minimum match of COA request via any combination of cash or in-kind contributions</p>	<p>Projects engaging a COA Teaching Artist - 40% Of grant request</p> <p>Projects engaging any other artist - 50% of grant request</p> <p>In-kind contributions may be applied toward up to 50% of the required match</p>	<p>50% minimum match of COA request</p>	<p>100% minimum match</p>	<p>100% minimum match</p>	
<p>October 1, 2016</p>	<p>In-kind contributions may be applied toward up to 25% of the required match</p>				

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Program Description
 Regional Grant Awards Eligibility
 All Project awards will be made on a first-come, first-served basis

Matching Requirements

Outcome Studies on the Efficacy of Art Therapy: A Review of Findings

Sarah C. Slayton, Jeanne D'Archer, and Frances Kaplan, Marylhurst, OR
 Abstract

In response to a review by Reynolds, Nabors, and Quinlan (2000) of the art therapy literature prior to 1999, this review article identifies studies from 1999–2007 that measured outcomes of art therapy effectiveness with all ages of clinical and nonclinical populations. Although numerous studies blend art therapy with other modalities, this review is limited to studies that isolate art therapy as the specific intervention. The results of this review suggest that there is a small body of quantifiable data to support the claim that art therapy is effective in treating a variety of symptoms, age groups, and disorders. Table below is excerpt from summary table of Numerous studies related to various demographics.

Study Author	size	population	intervention	Time	Tools used	conclusions
Rusted Sheppard & Waller 2006	45	Older adults	Experimental group received group art therapy control received non-art activities	40 weeks	Mini Mental Status Exam; National Adult Reading Test; Cornell Scale and Dementia; Multi Observational Scale for the Elderly; Rivermead Behavioral Memory Test; Test of Everyday Attention; Benton Fluency Task; Bond-Lader Mood Scale	Clear evidence of positive and durable benefits in mental alertness, sociability, physical and social engagement for the art therapy group

The arts can help us understand and define aging, explore what it means to grow old through writing workshops, forums, murals, theater, and dance. The arts offer an opportunity for self-expression amidst loss, for achievement and re-engagement amidst voids and uncertainty. Many older adults face frequent loss in their lives—jobs, health, spouses, friends, leadership positions, or income. The arts can provide ample opportunities for lifelong learning and service to others. Older adults have increased leisure time with their unprecedented longer lives. Volunteerism enriches the quality of life for older adults.

"We know intuitively that art and creativity can dramatically improve older people's quality of life and health." — Gay Hanna, Ph.D., Executive Director, Society for the Arts in Healthcare (SAH)

Conclusion

Dale (2008):

Preliminary examination of the data indicates that participants using [art therapy] make less phone calls to medical and mental health providers; require fewer referrals to medical specialists; have a decreased number of somatic symptoms and complaints; and reduce their utilization of medical and mental health services. (p. 2)

As artists and people with life experience, we intuitively know that art therapy works. On any given day we may feel that "of course it was the art therapy" that allowed a client to make a certain improvement. Our perception rules out other possibilities when art therapy fits as the best solution for a client or worked in the same way for another client. Thus, it is essential to provide evidence of the efficacy of our treatment of choice. There are many people invested in the outcome of the treatment of given clients; most importantly, the clients themselves need to know that the art therapy treatment they are being offered has been shown to mitigate the challenges they face. Given the complicated clinical dilemmas of the 21st century, at times it can feel discouraging to work in the art therapy field without a reminder that what we are doing not only has meaning but also makes tangible headway in the areas where our clients are suffering. In the midst of completing this review of outcomes research, the authors were encouraged by the fact that two clinical settings in our community consider art therapy, at least preliminarily, to be an "evidence-based" treatment. One is a secure program for adolescent

males who have been adjudicated for sexual offenses. This program has recognized the value of nonverbal and metaphorical processes inherent in art therapy in working with these youth, many of whom suffer from the kinds of complex trauma and the cognitive distortions that Smeijsters and Cleven (2006) described in their study. During a recent site audit, the individual and group art therapy interventions provided by graduate student interns at the site were recognized as concrete evidence of progress toward the specific treatment goals of identifying safe coping skills and improving social skills. This treatment program relies on evidence-based treatment outcomes for funding, so we were very encouraged to learn of this development (K. K. Doolittle, personal communication, March, 2008). The second development in our local community came from a day treatment and residential program that serves elderly adults with medical, mental health, and cognitive impairments. This agency is interested in writing a grant for art therapy services based on the following rationale by Dale (2008): Preliminary examination of the data indicates that participants using [art therapy] make less phone calls to medical and mental health providers; require fewer referrals to medical specialists; have a decreased number of somatic symptoms and complaints; and reduce their utilization of medical and mental health services. (p. 2)

Although we believe that art therapists have the same challenges we have always had in art therapy research — to be more standardized and more precise, to do more fully experimental designs, and to replicate studies — there seems to be positive movement in the field of art therapy, and ultimately, toward the well-being of our clients and patients. Since 2007, which was the end date for the studies in our review, several new studies have been conducted. Continued improvement in our field will be accomplished by evaluating outcome studies that have emerged since 2008 and by conducting larger-scale effectiveness studies in the future. Our review is a small contribution to the ongoing clarification of how art therapy helps with various challenges and what components of the art therapeutic encounter lead to positive outcomes.