



James Krupienski
Acting Town Manager

TOWN OF NEWINGTON

120 Cedar Street Newington, Connecticut 06111

Senior and Disabled Center



Jaime Trevethan
Director

**COMMISSION ON AGING AND DISABLED
MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, March 1, 2023
6:00 P.M.**

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
TOWN OF NEWINGTON, CT
2023 MAY -8 AM 11:59
Jaime O. Krupienski
Town Clerk

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:13 p.m. in Senior & Disabled Center room A&B and via Zoom.

Commissioners present: Chairperson Brecher, Commissioner Frantz, Commissioner Lynch, Commissioner Nagel, Commissioner Sobieski

Commissioners Absent: Commissioner Starr

Others present: Councilor David Nagel, Liaison to the COAD, Councilor Kim Radda, Liaison to the COAD, Jaime Trevethan, SDC Director

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Councilor Nagel provided an update on the budget process at the Council level. The Council has received the Town Manager's proposed budget and will meet to discuss departmental budgets on March 25.

IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – 2-8-23 Special Meeting

Commissioner Franz moved to accept the minutes as submitted. Motion seconded by Commissioner Sobieski. Motion passed 5-0 (Commissioner Starr Absent)

V. STAFF REPORT

A. Program and Service Report

SDC Director Jaime Trevethan provided an update on the Center's current offerings during the past month such as:

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www.newingtonct.gov

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- A Carnival Mardi Gras Celebration
- A Mediterranean-Style Cooking Demo
- AARP programs: Driver's Ed and Tax Aide
- A pickleball clinic
- Card and Valentines Day Crafts
- The congregate lunch program continues to grow since reopening in April 2022, with an average daily participation of 35-40 members. Meals on Wheels is nearing a record high utilization with 59-62 residents receiving hot meals daily.
- The gift and coffee shops continue to run well. Staff is running a marketing campaign for consignors.
- The AARP Tax Aide Program continues and is fully operational with appointments available at the Center every Thursday through April 15. Tax Aide volunteers are local residents who are trained and IRS certified. They prepare simple tax returns free of charge. Although the focus is on Newington residents age 50+, appointments are open to anyone.
- The Giving Garden is preparing for the spring. Outdoor cleanup will start as weather permits in March and seedlings have been started indoors for several herbs and vegetables. Volunteers are needed in the garden.
- Daily regular in-person and remote activities continue to run smoothly and are well-attended.
- Bus trips are back and selling out quickly. A group of three volunteers plans and sells day trips throughout the state and northeast trips at our volunteer Bus Stop. At least one trip per month is planned through December.

B. NCOA Vaccine Uptake Initiative Grant

The Director indicated that the SDC has applied for grant funding from National Council on Aging for a COVID and flu vaccine uptake initiative. If approved, Newington will be the fiduciary for the Central CT Health District and member towns Wethersfield, Rocky Hill and Berlin. The funding is intended to help those with physical, medical, transportation or financial challenges obtain vaccinations. Funding decisions are expected to be made in April.

C. ARPA Funding for Senior Centers

The Director indicated that Newington is expected to receive \$90,000 in ARPA funds specifically for the Senior & Disabled Center. Centers throughout the state are awaiting more information regarding the timing of the funding and its acceptable uses. The understanding is that it must be used for capital or facilities improvements or programming and is intended to promote COVID-19 mitigation and recovery from a loss of membership and revenue during the pandemic.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- #### A. Budget Update (see Councilor Nagel's update above).

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VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Upcoming Activities

The Director listed some upcoming activities, including:

- What I need to Know About My Electric Choices presented by AARP on 3/15
- Crafts such as Paint & Sip, Coffee, Coloring & Conversation and Easter Greeting Card Class
- A gardening presentation
- The State of the Town Address
- The Friends of the Library Book Sale
- The Newington Intergenerational Art Show, featuring artwork from Newington students grade K-12 and members of the Newington Art League

B. Building Update

The bids for the window project are due on March 10. The architect and Facilities staff have walked through the building and held pre-bid meetings with potential bidders to prepare for the process.

C. Consideration of Upcoming Purchases - none


D. Determine Next Meeting Date & Agenda

The Commission agreed by consensus to meet as scheduled on April 5, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in Conference Room A&B with a Zoom option available.

VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - none

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Brecher moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 p.m. Motion seconded by Commissioner Nagel. The motion passed 5-0.

Signed: 
Director, Newington Senior & Disabled Center

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