

Commission on Aging
November 14, 2022 – Regular Meeting
Colchester Senior Center
95 Norwich Avenue

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Nola Weston, Vice Chair Marjorie Mlodzinski, Corresponding Secretary Gerrie Transue, Roberta Avery, Treasurer Linda Pasternak, Rosanne Tousignant, Quinn Kozak; Alternates William Otfinoski.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Alternate Terry Brown.

OTHERS PRESENT: Senior Services Director Patty Watts; Senior Center Program Coordinator Jodie Savage, Cathy Russi.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Nola Weston called this Regular Meeting to order at 8:30 am.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Weston led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

R. Avery requested adding discussion of time and location to the agenda, Chair Weston requested adding Senior Center Building Committee, Norton Park, and AARP.

Motion by: G. Transue

to approve the additions to the agenda under Item 9. Old Business.

Second by: L. Pasternak

Vote: Unanimous to approve.

4. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

C. Russi commented on possibly needing fundraisers to get the items wanted for the new senior center.

5. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 11, 2022

Motion by: M. Mlodzinski

to approve the minutes of October 11, 2022, as read.

Second by: R. Tousignant.

Vote: Unanimous to approve.

6. FINANCE REPORT

6.1 CoA

Linda Pasternak the accounts have not changed, there is \$416.26 in the CoA Account, \$4.70 in the Wellness Fair Account and \$.80 in the Printing and Publications Account.

6.2 Senior Center

See attached report.

7. CHAIR REPORT

Chair Weston noted the budget referendum is tomorrow. Chair Weston attended the new Parks & Recreation playground ribbon cutting ceremony and heard very positive feedback. As Chair Weston is on the Parks & Recreation Commission (P&R), she stated that any ideas for activities would be welcome. The P&R public forum on the strategic plan will be held on

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Gayle Furman
TOWN CLERK

November 16 at Colchester Elementary School. The Colchester Connection magazine will be available again beginning in January. The P&R Commission is planning a Winter Wonderland Program for December. R. Avery to check on the State Commission on Aging to see if they are still meeting. It was also discussed about the Round Tables that stopped meeting due to Covid.

Commission terms for N. Weston, W. Otfinoski, L. Pasternak and T. Brown are ending in December. Members need to request to stay on the Commission and be reappointed and sworn in before the January meeting date. L. Pasternak has requested reappointment and been reappointed.

8. DIRECTOR OF SENIOR SERVICES REPORT

Report attached.

9. OLD BUSINESS

9.1 Education Sub Committee – survey update

Jodi Savage provided the questions for the upcoming survey. Some minor changes were suggested.

Motion by: M. Mlodzinski
to approve the survey with amendments.

Second by: R. Avery

Vote: Unanimous to approve.

9.2 Senior Center Building Committee

Director Watts noted that the low bid for the Center came in at \$8,995,000. Several items have been removed to reach \$8,625,000, the contract must be signed within 90 days of October 12, 2022. The groundbreaking will be rescheduled for the Spring.

9.3 The Norton Park Committee has submitted a Brownfield Grant request. The decision is expected in mid-December.

9.4 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Committee

The Committee and the Board of Selectmen has been meeting jointly to review Town department requests. A survey for public input is being prepared.

9.5. Association for American Retired Persons (AARP)

R. Avery said a lunch is planned at Papa Z's on December 6, 2022, for \$26. The dues to become a member is \$5.00.

Commission terms for N. Weston, W. Otfinoski, L. Pasternak and T. Brown are ending in December. Members need to request to stay on the Commission and be reappointed and sworn in before the January meeting date. L. Pasternak has requested and been reappointed.

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.1 2023 Meeting Schedule

The draft of the 2023 Meeting Schedule was presented for approval. Discussion followed about the time and location of the meeting. The hybrid room at town hall is up and running. It was suggested that the meetings be held at town hall. L. Pasternak will speak with the First Selectman.

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Motion by: R. Avery
to approve the dates with follow up for time and place.
Second by: G. Transue.
Vote: Unanimous to approve.

Chair Weston will schedule a Special Meeting on November 28, 2022 at 8:30 to decide the time and place for meetings.

10.2 CSC Strategic Plan Update

P. Watts will meet once a month with committee members to review goals and objectives.

11. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

No comments were received.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by: M. Mlodzinski
to adjourn this meeting.
Second by: R. Avery.
Vote: Unanimous to approve.

Chair Weston adjourned this meeting at 9:51am.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jane Slade
Clerk

Director of Senior Services Report CoA Meeting November 14, 2022

We are in the middle of Open Enrollment for Medicare—October 15th-December 7th. Senior Resources will be hosting 2 Open Enrollment Events on November 18th and December 2nd.

Budget Referendum will be held on November 15th. We will be offering Rides to the Polls that day.

Groundbreaking for new senior center was cancelled for October 21st due to the funeral services for the fallen officers in Bristol. The Board of Selectmen and Senior Center Building Committee are working together on a plan and the rescheduled date has yet to be announced.

Across the Ages is a new intergenerational collaboration with students from Mr. Baran's class at WJJMS. Students and seniors will be partnered for in-person meetings as well as letter exchanges throughout the year.

Chatham Health District held 2 Flu and Covid Booster shot clinics in late October and early November.

Thank you to Andrea Cestone of TVCCA for providing some on-site support for the Energy Assistance Programs. With high inflation, we are seeing more people than usual struggling financially.

We will be holding a Veterans' Day Apple Pie Social on November 10th at 11 a.m.

Tickets for our Thankful Table Thanksgiving Luncheon are nearly sold out. Due to space constraints, we have to cap the event at 50 people.

We are offering a new class through AARP, taught by Harry Hom, AARP Smart Driver Tek class. This class will emphasize the technological advances in today's vehicles and how to best utilize those features to keep yourself safe while on the road.

Our Senior Serenaders Choral Group will be performing a show of Broadway hits on November 22nd.

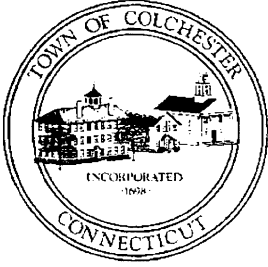
Parking has become an issue now that we don't have access to the former Citizens' Bank parking lot. A perimeter fence has been installed surrounding the property, as construction is scheduled to begin.

CSC was closed on 11/11/22 for Veterans' Day and will be closed 11/24 & 25 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Effective in January, 2023 our Fitness Card prices will be raised to \$35.00 so that we can give our instructors a long-overdue raise. Each class will now cost \$3.50.

Attendance & Meals Served:

- Meals delivered in September: Community Café: 403 MOW: 524
- Monthly transports in September: 845
- Monthly attendance in September: 2,318
- Total Membership: 1,634



Town of Colchester, Connecticut

95 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Patricia A. Watts, Director of Senior Services/Municipal Agent

Transportation Itemization for October 2022

Item	Date	Amount
Daily Transportation	10/28/2022	\$219.00 Total
 Trips	 10/28/2022	 \$99.00 Total
 Combined Total		 \$318.00
 Year to Date Total		 \$1153.00