

Commission on Aging  
June 13, 2022 – Regular Meeting  
Colchester Senior Center  
95 Norwich Avenue

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Quinn Kozak.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Senior Services Director Patty Watts, Cathy Russi, Board of Finance (BOF) Liaison Andrea Migliaccio.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Marge Mlodzinski called this Regular Meeting to order at 8:30 am.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Mlodzinski led the Commission members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

No additions were requested.

**4. CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

Cathy Russi stated she supports the proposed budget and was pleased to see the new transportation position in the Senior Center budget.

**5. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MAY 9, 2022**

The minutes of the May meeting were presented for approval.

**Motion by:** R. Tousignant

to approve the minutes of the May 9, meeting as read.

**Second by:** G. Transue.

**Vote:** Abstaining: L. Pasternak, R. Avery – absent from meeting.  
In favor: All others. Approved.

**6. FINANCIAL REPORT**

**6.1 CoA**

Treasurer L. Pasternak stated there is \$416.26 in the CoA budget and \$4.70 in the Wellness Fair account and \$87 left in the Printing & Publications line item.

**6.2 Senior Center**

See attached.

**7. CHAIR REPORT**

Chair Mlodzinski reported on the very successful health fair and noted it is in the budget for next year. The Town Referendum will be held on June 16, 2022. The

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voting will be from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm at Town Hall. The CORE Committee will have a booth at the Farmers' Market on Sunday, June 19. The Hybrid Room for zoom meetings will possibly be ready at the end of August, beginning of September.

BOF Chair Migliaccio said there has been a steady decline in voters over the last few years. The BOF meetings are continuing with zoom and the Board will be reviewing the fees that are charged in the various departments of the Town.

## **8. DIRECTOR OF SENIOR SERVICES REPORT**

Report attached.

## **9. OLD BUSINESS**

### **9.1 Senior Center Building Committee**

Chair Mlodzinski said the Senior Center Building Committee had a booth at the Tag Sale on the Green this past weekend. Bids should be out by July, awarded by August and construction should begin in September.

### **9.2 Norton Park Committee**

L. Pasternak reported that the Norton Park Committee had a very good meeting with newly hired Consultant Jay Gigliotti, former Colchester Inland Wetlands Officer. Mr. Gigliotti is very familiar with the park plans and grants. He hopes to get the project moving again. There is a possibility of renewing the expired Brownfield Grant. With the grant money and the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) monies, it is hoped the first phase of the park could be completed.

### **9.3 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)**

Chair Mlodzinski noted that the small businesses, non-profit applications and town projects have been reviewed, approved to be forwarded to the Board of Selectmen for approval. Due to the number of applicants, a percentage of their request will be given out.

### **9.4 2022 Programs Update**

Chair Mlodzinski suggested several ideas for Fall programs. A possible presentation on elderly scams, hobbies, elder law and elder abuse, fire prevention were discussed. A. Migliaccio suggested a survey. R. Avery and T. Brown will look into the survey and prepare questions.

## **10. NEW BUSINESS**

### **10.1 Election of Officers for one-year term: July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023**

The Nominating Committee presented the following slate of officers to the

Commission: Nola Weston – Chair

Marge Mlodzinski – Vice Chair

Linda Pasternak – Treasure

Gerrie Transue – Corresponding Secretary

Chair of Nominating Committee, R. Avery, asked for any additional nominees for the Chair position. Hearing none, a vote for N. Weston as chair was unanimous.

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Chair of Nominating Committee, R. Avery asked for any additional nominees for Vice Chair. Hearing none, a vote for M. Mlodzinski as vice chair was unanimous.

Chair of Nominating Committee, R. Avery asked for any additional nominees for Treasurer. Hearing none, a vote for L. Pasternak as Treasurer was unanimous.

Chair of Nominating Committee, R. Avery asked for any additional nominees for Corresponding Secretary. Hearing none, a vote for G. Transue as Corresponding Secretary was unanimous.

**11. COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP**

At this time the Commission is at full membership with two alternates.

**12. CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

Non comments received.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by:** R. Avery  
to adjourn this meeting.

**Second by:** N. Weston.

**Vote:** Unanimous to approve.

Chair Mlodzinski adjourned this Regular Meeting at 9:31am.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jane Slade  
Clerk

**Director of Senior Services Report  
CoA Meeting June 8, 2022**

Ruth Reinwald's last day as Program Coordinator was May 31st. We had a lovely Memorial Day Picnic, catered by Harry's followed by a cake to wish Ruth well. She will be teaching a monthly painting class with us, beginning in July, so we will continue our good working relationship. I conducted first interviews on Friday with 7 individuals, and hope to schedule 2<sup>nd</sup> interviews with my top 3 choices this week.

I will be on vacation from June 18-July 4. Former Program Coordinator, Becky Kowlaczyk, is coming back temporarily to cover for my absence. Everyone is excited to see her.

On May 26<sup>th</sup>, we were notified that a bequest of \$250,000 was left to the Colchester Senior Center from the Estate of Mr. Stephen J. Bendas. We are incredibly grateful for this generous endowment.

Town Meeting was held on June 8<sup>th</sup> to move forward the Town Budget to Referendum on June 15<sup>th</sup>. If passed, Senior Services would gain an additional part-time medical driver. There needs to be more emphasis to voters on going out to the polls. CSC will be running buses to the polls for seniors who need a ride.

The CSC Logo Contest will go before the Board of Selectmen after the Town Budget is passed. Passing the budget for the new fiscal year is the highest priority.

Missy Bauman and I will be attending a Grant Hearing on Thursday, June 16<sup>th</sup> for renewal funding for the Making Memories Program with Senior Resources. This will be held via Zoom.

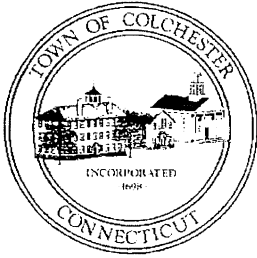
Our local chapter of AARP (#4019) had their Installation Luncheon at Papa Z's last Tuesday. Mary Bylone is President, Robbie Avery is Vice President, Marie Flanagan is Treasurer and Irene Watson is Secretary, Jean Anderson and Eva O'Connell also serve on the Executive Board. Their priorities are to grow their membership, specifically younger seniors who may be seeking new leadership opportunities, and introduce new program collaborations with the senior center.

CSC and Town offices will be closed on Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup> for the Juneteeth Holiday and Monday, July 4<sup>th</sup> for Independence Day.

**Attendance & Meals Served:**

- Meals delivered in April: Community Café: 338 MOW: 441
- Monthly transports in April: 749
- Monthly attendance in April: 2,136
- Total Membership: 1,576





# *Town of Colchester, Connecticut*

95 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

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

## **Transportation Itemization for May 2022**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Daily Transportation	5/30/2022	\$130.00    Total

Trips	5/30/2022	\$107.00    Total
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Combined Total	\$237.00
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Year to Date Total	\$1995.30
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