

Commission on Aging
August 8, 2022 – Regular Meeting
95 Norwich Avenue
Colchester Senior Center

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Corresponding Secretary Gerrie Transue, Quinn Kozak.

OTHERS PRESENT: Senior Services Director Patty Watts, Program Coordinator Jodi 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

No additions were requested.

4. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Cathy Russi said she was disappointed to see the additional transportation position has been cut from the proposed budget. C. Russi spoke about the need for more transportation as the area available to citizens for medical transportation is widespread.

5. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JULY 11, 2022

Minutes of the July meeting were presented for review.

Motion by: M. Mlodzinski
to accept the minutes as read.

Second by: R. Avery.

Vote: Unanimous to approve.

6. FINANCIAL REPORT

6.1 CoA

Treasurer Linda Pasternak reported no changes have occurred with the finances. There is \$416.26 in the CoA Account, \$4.70 in Wellness Fair Account and \$87 in the Printing and Publications Account. The new 2022-2023 budget has not been approved to date.

6.2 Senior Center

See attached report.

7. CHAIR REPORT

Chair Weston said she would like to meet with each member of the Commission to discuss ideas and goals. Chair Weston said a fire safety program will be held in October with the Fire Marshal. The meeting time of this commission has been

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Gayle Furman
TOWN CLERK

suggested to be changed. This item will be discussed at a future meeting.

Chair Weston said she appreciates the time and work put into the reports from Director Watts each month.

Former Chair M. Mlodzinski thanked the Commission members for the beautiful bouquet of flowers she received.

Director Watts introduced new Program Coordinator Jodi Savage. P. Watts noted the Neighborhood Health Clinic is a new mobile unit that will be in Colchester today.

Due to the uptick in Covid cases, masks are being requested to be worn at the Senior Center.

At this time, there is a free test site for Covid located at the William J. Johnston Middle School on Monday, Wednesday and Friday sponsored by Chatham Health Department. When school begins the site will go back to the Rec Park.

R. Avery said the American Association for Retired Persons (AARP) will meet on September 6 and “Meet the Candidates” will be held on October 4, 2022.

8. DIRECTOR OF SENIOR SERVICE REPORT

Report attached.

9. OLD BUSINESS

9.1 Senior Center Building Committee

M. Mlodzinski said the state is reviewing the project, it will then be presented to Town officials and then out to bid when approved. M. Mlodzinski and Chair Tony Tamowski will give a presentation at Northwoods on August 28.

9.2 Norton Park Committee

L. Pasternak said Jay Gigliotti has been hired as a consultant and is working on an estimate on the remediation and flood plain management to present to the Department of Energy and Environmental and Protection (DEEP). Nothing can go forward until remediation work is completed. At this time, it is hoped that the project will qualify for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

9.3 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

M. Mlodzinski said the non-profit applications have been reviewed as well as the business applications. The municipal projects are next and the review will include possible alternative funding.

9.4 Education Subcommittee

This is a new subcommittee to work on programs based on a survey that will be prepared and available to the public. R. Tousignant, T. Brown, and R. Avery will bring information to the next meeting. R. Tousignant will chair this subcommittee.

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.1 Senior Center Groundbreaking

The groundbreaking ceremony is tentatively scheduled for September 30, 2022.

11. CITIZENS' COMMENT

C. Russi noted that there are many people, some no longer with us, who have worked hard to get this new Senior Center. C. Russi also noted that the day of the ceremony there should be a shuttle from St Andrew's to the groundbreaking as there will be a large group of those wanting to attend. Also, noted was how important parking, storage and a kitchen are to this project.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by: R. Avery
to adjourn this meeting.

Second by: M. Mlodzinski.

Vote: Unanimous to approve.

Chair Weston adjourned this meeting at 9:25 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jane Slade
Clerk

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

I wanted to introduce Jodi Savage, our new Program Coordinator, to you all, and have her answer any questions you may have.

Today, we have a Neighborhood Health Clinic from Hartford HealthCare coming to provide medical services as well as wrap around services from TVCCA and UCFS. We are excited for this new collaboration with them and hope to offer these important services on a routine basis. (See flyer)

We have had a recent uptick of our regular attendees and travelers (on senior center trips) testing positive recently. As a result, we are strongly encouraging people to mask while attending senior center programs—for their own safety as well as for the safety of our staff, so we can continue our services uninterrupted. We are also making masks and at-home test kits available, while our supplies last.

Due to the increase of Covid cases with people who use the senior center, we have noticed that attendance has ebbed in the past few weeks, as many regular attendees do not want to face exposure.

I am pleased to announce that we have a new Strategic Planning Team, who will be looking at reviewing and revising the Long-Range Plan for the next 5 years. Our first meeting is scheduled for August 25th and I expect to meet once per month for several months until our task is complete, at which time it will go before the Board of Selectmen for approval.

These are the people who will be serving on the Strategic Planning Team 2022:

Patty Watts, Director of Senior Services
Jodi Savage, Program Coordinator
Roberta Avery, AARP #4019, Commission on Aging, CSC Member
Joan Hunter, CSC Member
Nancy Nelson, CORE Commission Member, CSC Member
Bill Otfinoski, AARP #4019, Commission on Aging, CSC Member
Diane Paquette, Colchester Citizen
Toni Sirois, CSC Member
Gerrie Transue, Commission on Aging, Senior Center Building Committee Member, CSC Member
Denise Turner, Board of Selectmen Liaison

It's worth noting that Bill Otfinoski also served on the original Strategic Planning Team in 2015, and we are pleased to have him back with us this time around.

Farmers' Market Vouchers were distributed on July 25th. Alison Dvorak will be at the Colchester Farmers' Market on Sunday, August 14th and will have additional vouchers for people who may have missed this original sign-up. Each voucher is worth \$4, and there are 6 of them for a total value of \$24.

Attendance & Meals Served:

- Meals delivered in June: Community Café: 388 MOW: 425
- Monthly transports in June: 877
- Monthly attendance in June: 2,601
- Total Membership: 1,601



Neighborhood Health Clinic

Monday, August 8, 2022

10am to 2pm

Colchester Senior Center

95 Norwich Ave. Colchester CT

No appointment needed.

Hartford HealthCare:

Visit with a provider, nurse, medical assistant. Basic lab testing, prescription assistance, vaccinations, referrals, and follow up care.

TVCCA:

Case Management, employment and training, energy assistance, financial education, housing, Senior Nutrition programs and Meals on Wheels, Senior Volunteer services.

UCFS:

Access to Primary Care (medical, dental, and behavioral health), assistance with insurance applications, assistance with linkages to financial benefits.

Hartford
HealthCare
Neighborhood Health



**Thames Valley Council
for Community Action, Inc.**



UCFS Healthcare
Well-Being Redefined.

Mobile Health Hub

August 2022

	Located at: Colchester Senior Center 95 Norwich Ave. Colchester, CT			
Monday August 8 10am-2pm	Hartford HealthCare Visit with a provider, nurse, medical assistant. Basic lab testing, prescription assistance, vaccinations, referrals, and follow up care.	TVCCA Case Management, employment and training, energy assistance, financial education, housing, Senior Nutrition programs and Meals on Wheels, Senior Volunteer services		
Thursday August 11 10am-2pm	Located at: Covenant Soup Kitchen : 220 Valley St. Willimantic, CT			
	Hartford HealthCare Visit with a provider, nurse, medical assistant. Basic lab testing, prescription assistance, vaccinations, referrals, and follow up care.	Generations Access to Primary Care (medical, dental, and behavioral health), Assistance with insurance applications, Assistance with linkages to financial benefits.	ACCESS Info regarding economic stability, housing assistance, Energy/case management.	
Monday August 22 10am-3pm	Located at: St. Vincent DePaul : 120 Cliff St. Norwich, CT			
	Hartford HealthCare Visit with a provider, nurse, medical assistant. Basic lab testing, prescription assistance, vaccinations, referrals, and follow up care.	UCFS Access to Primary Care (medical, dental, and behavioral health), Assistance with insurance applications, Assistance with linkages to financial benefits.	TVCCA Economic Stability, housing / food assistance. Case Management, Childcare and preschool programs, energy assistance, Financial education, Housing, Meals on Wheels, WIC.	Uncas Health Vaccinations and drug awareness and Narcan use.
Thursday August 25 10am-2pm	Located at: Village Heights : 108B Cameo Dr. Willimantic, CT			
	Hartford HealthCare Visit with a provider, nurse, medical assistant. Basic lab testing, prescription assistance, vaccinations, referrals, and follow up care.	ACCESS Info regarding economic stability, housing assistance, Energy/case management.	Generations Access to Primary Care (medical, dental, and behavioral health), Assistance with insurance applications, Assistance with linkages to financial benefits.	

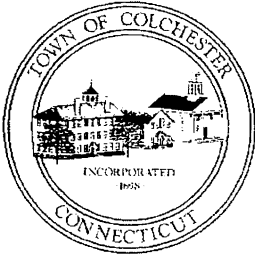


Calendar of Events
uwsect.org/events



This mobile resource event represents partners within the Eastern Connecticut Health Collaborative, coordinated by United Way of Southeastern Connecticut.





Town of Colchester, Connecticut

95 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

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

Transportation Itemization for July 2022

Item	Date	Amount
Daily Transportation	7/22/2022	\$276.00 Total

Trips	7/22/2022	\$44.00 Total
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Combined Total	\$320.00
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Year to Date Total	\$320.00
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