

**Newtown Community Center Commission  
8 Simpson Street Newtown, CT  
March 19, 2024**

**The minutes are subject to approval at the next meeting of the Newtown Community Center Commission.**

**Ms Walsh called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm. The meeting was held in the Community Center Meeting Room.**

**Present: Kinga Walsh, Jean Coville Dawe, Cheyanne Wirtz, Fred Taylor, Jenn Larkin, Stephanie Sklanka, Alexander Savo**

**Absent: Isabel Khazadian, Maureen Crick Owen**

**Also Present: Matt Ariniello**

**Public: Barney Molloy no comment**

**Ms Coville Dawe moved to approve the minutes of January 16, 2024. Second by Ms Sklanka approved**

**Director's report – attached**

**Some new evacuation strategies have been instituted since the gas leak evacuation. There is now a PA system for emergencies through the alarm system. Currently, the NCC is also looking into adding phones in each room which had been value-engineered out of the original plans. Emergency management is assisting with additional blankets as well as with streamlining all evacuation options.**

**Summer camp is filling up fast. Attendees must pay at least 50% when they sign up and the entire amount needs to be paid before the start of camp.**

**Rentals are almost completely booked out through October 2024, which includes some large events in the fall.**

**FFH campus water lines are due to be switched over next week. Water pressure will be improved with the new lines.**

**Pool HVAC – The Public Building and Site Commission requested that a second opinion be investigated through a mechanical engineering firm and should include spec drawings.**

**Pool deck – A lot of testing of the deck area is needed. A request was sent to the BOS (attached) to appropriate funds to begin this testing. We are at a standstill until all three Town boards (BoS, BoF and LC) approve this request. Depending on the results, there may be an opportunity to file a claim with CIRMA.**

**Bunny Breakfast – The event is this Sunday and we are still looking for extra server volunteers.**

**FONCC Update – We are actively looking for volunteers to assist in fundraising. A Development Committee is being established through FONCC.**

**Misc – Bids are underway to create an actual office with walls for the NCC Program Coordinator. ADP will be taking over the Town's payroll in the next few months which will help with the part-time summer help's payroll by eliminating a lot of paperwork.**

**Financials – attached**

**Playscape and HVAC funds have not been paid yet and will be coming out of the current balance.**

**Outdoor Playscape is on track to be delivered in June. We are trying to get some of the preliminary landscape work done beforehand so the playscape can be up and running as soon as possible and in time for summer camp.**

**Membership and Rental subcommittee update – Membership numbers were reviewed. Additional reviews will be made once the pool deck issue is better determined.**

**Splash Pad discussion – Mr Ariniello is going to head up this sub-committee and will encourage community input and assistance. The overall intent is to create plans and fundraising options. Discussed the possibility of including children in a focus group. The splash pad is an amenity that the town residents have mentioned would be an asset to the community. This will be an NCC self-funded project to benefit the Center's summer program and summer membership enrollment.**

**Ms Larkin moved to create a splash pad sub-committee Ms Sklanka 2<sup>nd</sup> – approved**

**A storage unit will house splash pad mechanicals and will be also located behind the building. \$75,000 in ARPA funds were granted to the NCC from the town for this project. ARPA funds need to be obligated by 12/31/25 and spent by 12/31/26.**

**Other business – Mr Ariniello will be taking a recertification class to maintain the commercial kitchen license.**

**Ms Coville- Dawe moved to adjourn at pm.**

**Ms Walsh adjourned the meeting at 7:45pm.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**LeReine Frampton, clerk**

## **Directors Report 3.18.24**

February has been another remarkable month for us at the Newtown Community Center, filled with achievements and exciting developments. Membership:

We're thrilled to report a substantial increase in memberships this month. We welcomed 152 new members and 54 new membership units.

### **Programs and Activities:**

Our spring programs are now in full swing, with a total of 284 participants enrolled in swim lessons and aquatic programs and 182 participants engaged in general programs, including after school activities, clinics, workshops, and adult programs. Our new "Fabulous Fours" program has already reached its capacity of 16 kids, showcasing its popularity among our family constituents.

We're pleased to share that the town's health insurance provider is offering grant funding to improve the health and wellness of town employees, including Board of Education employees. As part of this grant opportunity, we have the privilege of offering specialized programs such as yoga and pilates to employees, contributing to their overall well-being.

### **Summer Camp Registration and Update:**

Camp Registration opened last month, and the response has been overwhelming. Currently, we have 634 children registered for our full-day camp for the 10-week session, 90 children registered for half-day camps, and 50 children enrolled in our specialty camps. To further engage the community, we'll be hosting a Summer Camp Open House on April 7th.

We are continuing to interview Camp Counselors for the 2024 season and are hoping to have hired our behavioral interventionist and ropes course counselor by the middle of April.

Registration for the Race 4 Chase 2024 program is now open, and we have accepted 48 children into the program. Confirmation letters will be sent out in April. Additionally, we're in the process of hiring two more coaches to support this program, following the departure of our head coach, Erin Kowalski. This program, operating on a sliding scale grant program, will introduce a new fundraising system called "Anython", where children will seek sponsors for their run to ensure the program's sustainability.

## **Directors Report 3.18.24**

Last week, Maria and I had the privilege of attending the National Summer Camp Conference in New Jersey through the Summer Enrichment Grant. The conference provided valuable insights into addressing new behavioral challenges, complex HR issues, and innovative programming ideas.

### **Capital Projects and Maintenance:**

Appropriations were approved for both the playground and the Aquatics HVAC project through the Board of Finance and Council. Additionally, the Public Building and Site Commission has initiated the process of mechanical engineer request and drawing specifications for further review. We've also requested quotes for this work and expect updated figures in the coming weeks.

### **Community Engagement and Outreach:**

We're excited to announce that we're hosting a NASA exhibit in collaboration with a library grant. This interactive experience has been warmly received by individuals of all ages visiting our lobby.

Our efforts to spotlight members and staff through our Community Center Spotlight initiative have been well-received. We encourage everyone to watch this month's spotlight here. Furthermore, we're actively preparing for the certification of our commercial kitchen to renew our license.

Town leadership recently convened to discuss the Safe Streets 4 America grant, aiming to address pedestrian safety and traffic concerns. We're committed to contributing to these efforts, particularly around Fairfield Hills, and will continue to participate in relevant discussions and initiatives.

### **Generous Support and Acknowledgments:**

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Friends of the Community Center for their generous donation of \$12k towards the playground project. Their support, focused on fencing and the purchase of one handicap item, is invaluable to us. We're pleased to announce that the contract for the project has been signed and is on track for delivery in June.

I will be attending Stew Leonard's swim school in Norwalk for a tour, site visit and check presentation (\$6,000.00 grant award) in April.

### **Directors Report 3.18.24**

A special shout out goes out to Maria for hosting a successful St. Patrick's Day Bingo event. As we gear up for our Annual Egg Dive and Bunny with Breakfast event this weekend, we encourage everyone to participate and volunteer.

Lastly, I want to commend our staff for their exemplary response during a recent emergency on the campus. Their swift action ensured the safety of our members, highlighting their dedication and professionalism. We're working closely with Emergency Management to enhance our emergency preparedness protocols for various scenarios.



Lereine Frampton &lt;lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov&gt;

**Fwd: Appropriations letter**

1 message

**Kinga Walsh** <kwalshccc@gmail.com>

Tue, Mar 19, 2024 at 9:38 AM

To: Jean Coville Dawe <jcdawe13@gmail.com>, Fred Taylor <Fjtaylor11@aol.com>, Lereine Frampton <lereine.frampton@newtown-ct.gov>, Matthew Ariniello <matthew.ariniello@newtown-ct.gov>, Maureen Crick Owen <maureenrickowen@gmail.com>, Jenn Larkin <Jenn.Larkin@hotmail.com>, Cheyanne Wirtz <cwyatt07@hotmail.com>, Stephanie Sklanka <stephaniesklanka@gmail.com>, Isabel Khazadian <IK1818@newtownps.org>, Alexandor Savo <AS4559@newtownps.org>

Morning,

Below is a copy of an appropriation request letter Matt sent to the BoS related to the pool deck issues. He will recap in greater detail at tonight's meeting.

Regards,

Kinga Walsh

Community Center Commission Chair

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Matthew Ariniello** <matthew.ariniello@newtown-ct.gov>

Date: Mon, Mar 18, 2024 at 11:04 PM

Subject: Appropriations letter

To: Kinga Walsh &lt;kwalshccc@gmail.com&gt;

Hi Kinga,

FYI- Here is a copy of my appropriations letter. I can share copies tomorrow night or digitally if you wish.

March 18, 2024

Dear Board of Selectman,

The Newtown Community Center is submitting this memorandum to request an appropriation of \$40,000.00 from the town's capital non-recurring account. Following a meeting with the town's building inspector, public works department, the town engineer, and members of the town's Public Building and Site Commission, it has been determined that the following steps are necessary to address the current structural issues facing the Newtown Community Center.

These funds will be allocated towards conducting site condition testing, as well as drilling and boring tests on the Fairfield Hills Campus, both indoors and outdoors.

The rationale behind this request stems from significant structural concerns that have been observed at the Community Center, particularly in the vicinity of the pool area. These concerns include:

- Large amounts of cracks on and around the pool deck
- Separation between the pool deck and the pool wall
- Tiles lifting on the pool deck and around the pool
- Piping conforming due to shifting

- Some structural cracking and interior cracking
- Movement of masonry joints

Given the importance of addressing these issues promptly to ensure the safety and integrity of our facilities, we believe that conducting comprehensive site condition testing, drilling, and boring tests is imperative. Additionally, water testing and metering will be included as part of these tests. These comprehensive assessments will provide essential insights into the underlying causes of the observed structural issues and inform the development of appropriate remediation measures.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and kindly request that the appropriation of \$40,000.00 be approved from the town's capital non-recurring account for this investigative purpose.

Respectfully,  
Matt Ariniello  
Community Center Director

**Matt Ariniello**  
*Community Center Director*



**Newtown**  
COMMUNITY CENTER

8 Simpson St | Newtown, CT 06470  
Tel: (203) 270-4341



**Newtown Community Center - Special Revenue Fund ESTIMATE**  
From July 1, 2023 through July 31, 2024

Revenue	Approved Budget/Fiscal Year		Deferred Revenue Adjustment												YTD 2023-2024
	2023-2024	2024	JULY 2023	AUG 2023	SEPT 2023	OCT 2023	NOV 2023	DEC 2023	JAN 2024	FEB 2024	MAR 2024	APR 2024	MAY 2024	JUN 2024	
State Grants	4280	50,000					5,342			5,000					10,342
NPC Grants	4281	-													-
Federal Grants	4280	-													-
Rental Income	4291	55,000	14,547	9,413	4,440	5,973	5,596	4,903	6,268	5,269					58,509
Other Grants	4295	-						10,000							10,000
Charges for Programs	4301	420,000	278,595	26,241	38,952	28,884	16,327	27,133	24,011	107,090					547,232
Charges for Aquatic Programs	4302	189,000	38,017	27,184	14,047	32,644	20,644	30,991	30,250	39,327					233,101
Membership Fees	4303	745,000	77,071	76,146	84,006	79,457	77,798	85,305	87,275	89,556					656,714
Special Events	4304	15,000	30	185	208	5	78								506
NCC-Childcare	4306	-													-
Interest on Investments	4400	138,000	92,896	100	7,289	10,571	11,009	120	117	207					122,310
Misc. Revenue	4500	-				5,248		553	5,248						11,049
Income-Community Café	4510	7,500	380	298	200	790	544	367	314	831					3,725
Income-Healthy Vending	4520	850	274			361				133					769
Donations	4550	40,000	7,811	392	1,420	5,500	4,815	1,013	2,432	5,344					28,727
Donations-GE	4555	-													-
Scholarships	4560	-													-
Transfers In	4560	-													-
Revenue Total		1,660,350	509,318	140,079	150,538	170,637	143,179	180,462	155,915	252,856					1,682,983

Expenditure	Approved Budget/Fiscal Year		Deferred Revenue Adjustment												YTD 2023-2024
	2023-2024	2024	JULY 2023	AUG 2023	SEPT 2023	OCT 2023	NOV 2023	DEC 2023	JAN 2024	FEB 2024	MAR 2024	APR 2024	MAY 2024	JUN 2024	
Salaries & Wages - Full time	5110	315,961	23,516	23,498	33,105	24,574	24,574	24,574	24,574	24,574					202,989
Salaries & Wages - Part Time	5115	479,844	69,520	78,222	56,631	37,175	39,512	36,668	32,302	40,826					380,855
Salaries & Wages - Seasonal	5117	-													491
Salaries & Wages - Childcare	5119	57,319	56,360	253	340	245	259	755	(321)	291					58,182
Group Insurance/LI/LTD	5210	60,327	7,043	7,707	6,790	4,849	4,849	4,666	4,269	4,923					44,917
Social Security Contributions	5220	16,812	1,176	1,175	1,517	952	952	952	952	952					8,627
Retirement Contributions	5301	1,000			147	229	154								905
Fees & Professional Services	5304	5,000													154
Special Events	5330	2,500													273
Marketing	5411	42,000	273			1,648	2,464	1,576	2,262	212					22,659
Water/Sewers	5430	27,500	3,297	1,363	1,648										12,821
Repair & Maintenance Srvc	5443	4,000													-
Copier Leasing	5505	173,279	1,656	18,415	14,266	9,936	9,182	13,421	21,420	10,978					99,273
Contractual Srvc	5505	6,200	100	837	286	93	1,311	367	156	112					2,983
Dues, Travel & Education	5560	12,000	381	1,244	581	1,543	2,335	600	1,013						6,352
General Supplies	5610	9,050	1,442	239	448	16	600	1,013							3,757
Office Supplies	5611	20,570	751	2,761	1,671	632	1,214	1,318	715						9,062
Program/Recreation Supplies	5612	23,500	11,093	3,169	2,223	461	4,954	530							22,430
Pool Supplies	5614	5,000	238	457		363	521								1,579
Community Events	5617	59,000	3,693	3,294	3,738	7,947	4,576	4,906							-
Childcare/NCC	5618	128,000	10,585	9,292	9,631	7,848	8,376	9,943	119						28,155
Energy-Natural Gas	5621	-													55,792
Energy-Electric	5622	8,750	176	180	1,912	104	866	174							3,411
Community Café	5630	140,000	3,090	9,124	1,821	4,505	12,659								31,199
Equipment	5746	-													-
Capital	5749	-													-
NPC Expenditures	5804	65,000	5,791	3,760	5,306	4,862	4,612	3,937	4,407	4,770					37,446
Other	5895	-													-
Expenditures Total		1,662,612	165,813	170,159	148,971	105,562	111,088	120,142	120,518	102,068					1,044,321

Newtown over Expenditures		343,505	(30,090)	1,567	65,075	32,090	40,320	35,397	150,786							638,663
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Beginning Fund Balance	5,083,551	5,427,056	5,394,976	5,398,543	5,463,618	5,485,708	5,536,028	5,571,425	5,712,213							
Ending Fund Balance	5,427,056	5,386,976	5,398,543	5,463,618	5,485,708	5,536,028	5,571,425	5,712,213								

\$56,360.00 Yearly medical benefit paid in August