

Newtown Nonprofit Council Notes | 12/21/20 monthly meeting

New member – Jenn Arnold from [Newtown Adult Education](#) joined us for the first time.

[EverWonder](#) – Meredith Christos reported the museum has a Noon Year's Eve event 9AM-1PM, has added back some hours to the museum schedule, and that the facility can have 50 people inside.

Christal Prezler from the [Newtown Economic Development Commission](#) noted the availability of the [Small Business Development Corps](#).

John Boccuzzi from [Friends of Newtown Seniors](#) (FONS) noted that the chore service is going well and is finding helpers, and that recent FONS efforts have been with local transportation issues.

Curt Symes chimed in interest in EDI matters from the [Commission on Aging](#).

The [Friends of the CH Booth Library](#) are still collecting books outside each Wednesday and Saturday from 10AM to 12PM, are still recruiting volunteers, and mentioned an upcoming children's sale in the library during the month of January.

Jeniam Foundation – Tripp mentioned working on end of year activities

[Newtown Lions](#) – Katherine Simpson reported that Lions support checks are going out to charities but that the amounts won't be as much this year. The Lions continue eyeglass collections at select locations (including the library) and plan on doing the school visibility screenings. The date for the Great Pootatuck Duck Race is 5/22/21, and the Lions are working on a [playground enhancement program](#) for Dickinson Park. The Lions remain interested in collaborative voluntarism efforts, e.g., people volunteer their time for any number of organizations.

[Newtown Human Services](#) Director Natalie Jackson reported on efforts that helped those in need during the holidays with thanksgiving and holiday baskets, working with the Faith Food Pantry, and that the [Senior Center](#) is open with some limits. The Senior Center had good turnout for drive-in lunch and learns.

[Chamber of Commerce](#) – Helen Brickfield reported working to recruit new Chamber members and keep them vital and continues working on the Facebook group [Newtown CT Small Business Group](#) and are looking to do a raffle in the first quarter of the new year.

Rotary Club – Alex noted that the annual pancake breakfast was completed and that Rotary will be serving food and helping at the [Dorothy Day Hospitality House](#) in Danbury on [Saturday 1/30 from 11-3](#).

CH Booth Library – Douglas Lord reported that the library's 5K virtual Turkey Trot went well given COVID, and that the library is working on presenting a programming slate for the public to do with equity, diversity, and inclusion. This relates to that part of the library's mission that seeks to raise the level of civic discourse in the community.

The discussion turned to the benefits and challenges associated with calendaring software solution for nonprofits serving Newtown. This is seen as a needed service for the community, something that has been missing in the town for many years. A group comprised of Doug, Alex, Jenn, Helen and Katherine will work together to develop elements for a proposed solution.

The next meeting of the Newtown Nonprofit Council is set for January 18th, 2021 at 10:00AM.