

The background features a stylized landscape. The top portion consists of several overlapping, semi-transparent green mountain peaks of varying heights and shades. Below the mountains is a wide, bright yellow field that has a subtle, fine-grained texture. The bottom edge of the yellow field is irregular, resembling a torn paper effect, and is set against a dark green background that also features the mountain peak pattern.

The Tolles-Parsons Center

“Setting the Table”

- Background
 - *History of Council on Aging*
 - *Tolles-Parsons Center Chronology*
- 2012 Review – A New Look
 - *Refresh research, explore new models*
 - *Findings of TPC Planning Committee*
 - *A Renewed Vision*
- TPC Advisory Group
 - *Members and “Charge”*

TPC Planning Committee

Established September 2012

Terri Tsagaris, BOS, Chair

Ellen Gibbs, BOS

Hans Larsen, Executive Director, General Govt Services

Lisa Heyison, Community Member

Susan Kagan Lange, COA, Chair

John Schuler, COA Board, WHA Board

Gayle Thieme, Director, Senior Services, COA

Harriet Warshaw, Assoc. Member COA Board

Fred Wright, Community Member

TPC Planning Committee Role

- Review mission and goals of COA
- Review research on services/programming for people aged 60 and over
- Review demographic trends
- Outline new model for delivery of services and programs
- Initiate TPC Advisory Group to explore methods of developing and implementing new model
- Provide final recommendations to BOS and Town Meeting

History of Council on Aging (COA)

- National Council on Aging originated in 1950
- 1965 - Older Americans Act
 - Promote development of senior centers for coordination of services and improve lives of older Americans
 - Work and volunteering
 - Healthy aging practices
 - Access to benefits
 - Ensure ability to remain independent

History of Wellesley COA

(continued)

- 1972 – Wellesley Town Meeting established COA “to coordinate and implement programs designed to meet the needs of the elderly”
- 1973 - “Senior Needs Assessment Survey”
 - Outreach
 - Senior Drop-in Center
 - Program Coordinator
 - Transportation gap
- 1974 - COA purpose:
 - Clearinghouse for senior programs offered by civic, fraternal and religious groups
 - Obligation to create specific programs for seniors including Mini bus program, Meals-on-Wheels and merchant discount program

History of Wellesley COA

(continued)

- 1975 – COA single room in Wellesley Friendly Aid building
Program Coordinator
- 1982 - COA moved to Wellesley Community Center
 - Director and one part-time assistant in one office
 - Access to spaces for services
- 1982 - 2012 – COA leases office and function space at WCC
 - Office space
 - One dedicated room in basement
 - Two additional rooms available from 9-4 each day
 - Director, two full-time employees , three part-time employees
 - 203 volunteers

Tolles-Parsons Center (TPC) Chronology

2005

- Gift from Billie Tolles Estate for purpose of building Senior Center

2007

- Senior Study Committee appointed by BOS
 - Consultations with national and state geriatric experts
 - ✧ *Mick Piper-Smyer, national gerontologist*
 - ✧ *Emmett Schmarsow, Executive Office of Elder Affairs*
 - Consultations with community leaders and department heads
 - Town survey of senior interests; significant response rate
 - Focus groups and public forums
 - Review of existing program and space needs
 - Benchmarking - visits to senior centers in other towns

TPC Chronology

(continued)

2008

- Review of possible sites for Tolles Parsons Center
- Funds appropriated by ATM and Billie Tolles Estate for Feasibility Study at American Legion site, 496 Washington Street
- Feasibility Study completed

2009

- ATM appropriates \$600,000 for detailed building design and construction documents
- Senior Center Building Committee formed
- Sterling Associates engaged as architect
- Programming Review completed
- Schematic design completed
- Traffic and Parking Study completed

TPC Chronology

(continued)

2009 – 2010

TPC Design Development – Current Model
Based on Feasibility, Programming and Parking Studies



TPC Chronology

(continued)

2010-2011

- Potential parking constraints lead to request for acquisition of real property adjacent to site for \$1.25 million; ATM votes \$1 million to purchase; rejected by seller
- Focus on alternative sites: *Wellesley Community Center*
 - Multiple design options for renovating WCC and sharing spaces
 - Condominium approach
 - Community complex with two buildings and sharing of some spaces
 - Parties agreed that no option would work for both COA and WCC

TPC Chronology

(continued)

2010-2012

- Consideration of other sites in town
 - Wellesley College – Washington Street; Turner Road
 - Town land on Turner Road near Morses Pond
 - Town land near Ouellet Field off Cedar St.
 - Town land near Prospect/Walnut Streets
 - NRC land near senior housing on Morton Field
 - Sharing space with Recreation Department at Warren Building

Conclusion: No viable alternative for current model at 496 Washington Street site

TPC Chronology

(continued)

2012 – A New Look

- Re-focus on 496 Washington Street site
- A new look at services and program delivery for 60+ group in Wellesley
- Does current design still make sense or are changes needed?

A New Look: Demographics

The Next Generation of 60+ - “The Baby Boomers”

- 60+ expected to grow dramatically in next 20 years
 - Today: 57 Million or 18.5% of U.S. population
 - By 2030: 92 Million or 25% of U.S. population
- 60+ more diverse, mobile, active, remain in workforce, longer life expectancy
- Not all 60+ are alike: broad range of needs, priorities, interests, activity levels

* Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs defines “senior” as 60+

** Source: Administration on Aging, U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services

A New Look: Demographics

Profile of Wellesley's Seniors

- Total Wellesley population: 27,982 (2010 U.S. Census)
- 5,272 age 60+ comprise 19% of total population, increase of 13.6% in last 10 years
 - 2,544 are male; 2,728 are female
 - More than 21% live alone (16% male; 84% female)
- Over one-third of households include someone 60+

A New Look: Demographics

Profile of Wellesley's Seniors (continued)

- Baby-boomers (born between 1946-1964) comprise approximately 28% of population
- Age 50-59 (3,729/13%);
- Age 60-69 (2,698/9.6%);
- Age 70-79 (1,507/5.4%);
- Age 80-84 (602/2.1%);
- Age 85+ (622/2.2%)

A New Look: Increase in Individuals Receiving Services

General Information Services:	FY10	FY12	Increase
• Unduplicated:	3040	5200	2160
• Duplicated:	4340	7800	3460
Support Services:			
• Unduplicated:	486	682	196
• Duplicated:	3226	3420	194

As this population increases, need for services increases on individual and service bases.

A New Look: Increase in Program/Activity Participation

Health & Fitness:	FY10	FY12	Increase
• Unduplicated:	299	298	(1)
• Duplicated:	3710	4753	1043
Learning & Recreation:			
• Unduplicated:	1933	1933	0
• Duplicated:	6641	7740	1099

Participation in multiple activities has increased. Individual participation rate flat due to lack of adequate and appropriate spaces for increased programming.

A New Look: Increase in Services and Participation

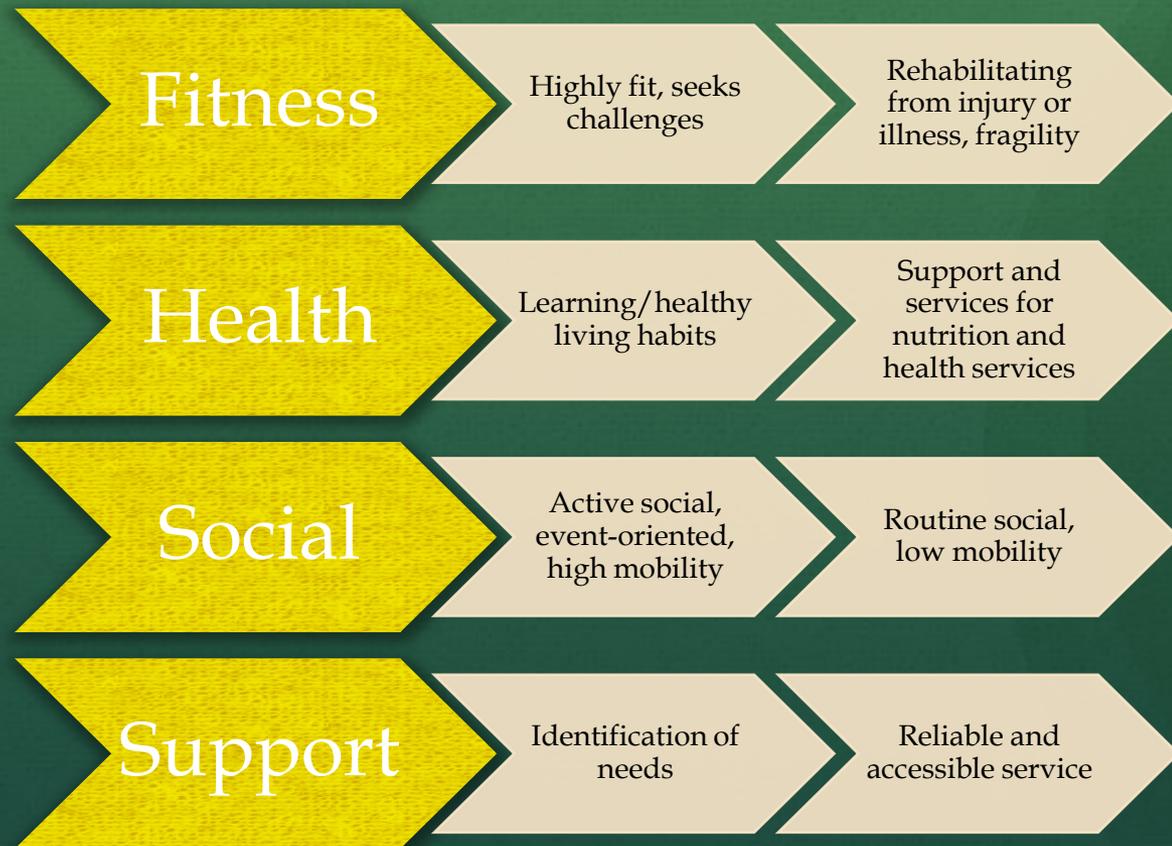
FY12

- General Information Services:
 - Unduplicated: 5200 Duplicated: 7800
 - Support Services:
 - Unduplicated: 692 Duplicated: 3420
 - Health & Fitness:
 - Unduplicated: 298 Duplicated: 4753
 - Learning & Recreation:
 - Unduplicated: 1933 Duplicated: 7740
- Total: Unduplicated: 8191 Duplicated: 23713

A New Look: Demographics

Profile of Wellesley's Seniors

Revised Demographic Profile: "Seniors" is a growing demographic group that increasingly encompasses a broad spectrum of interests, needs and capabilities



A New Look: Benchmarking

- Best practices of service delivery
- New models
- Organizational methods
- Integrated approaches

Weston

Harwich

Brookline

Needham

Hopkinton

Milford

Newton

Marshfield

Malden

Mashpee

Franklin

Belmont

Waltham

Duxbury

Natick

A New Look: Community Outreach

- Current senior programming
- Service delivery models
- Potential for integrated models

Recreation Commission	Wellesley Housing	Waterstone at Wellesley
Youth Commission	Authority	Babson College
School Committee	Police Department	Wellesley College
Natural Resources	Fire Department	Olin College
Commission	Human Relations Service	Mass Bay Community
Board of Health	Wellesley Friendly Aid	College
Library Trustees	Wellesley Service League	

A New Look: Delivery and Depth of Services and Programming

DELIVERY AND DEPTH- Current Model

- 60+ Services and Programming by COA are delivered from a central location (WCC) which is inadequate
- 60+ Services and Programming Town-wide are delivered by multiple departments in relative isolation
- There is some redundancy in program offerings across Town departments
- Coordination of outreach between departments is sporadic and inconsistent

A New Look: Findings of TPC Planning Committee

- 60+ adults want to “age in place” and remain a vibrant part of the community
- 60+ adults who participate in senior center programs experience a sense of well being; a place to socialize, learn, exercise and contribute to community
- Social interaction enhances mental health and key to sustaining high quality of life
- Regular physical activity contributes greatly to the fitness, health, functioning and quality of life

A New Look: Findings of TPC Planning Committee

- Many 60+ adults rely on senior centers and other aging services and social service programs for their basic needs
- Baby boomers or “new” seniors have different expectations and needs than those that guided the development of the current system
- Programs must be innovative and expanded to meet changing needs and interests; adventure, travel, continuing education, cultural events, evening and weekend hours, giving back to community
- We must accommodate all 60+ adults with more of everything – multi-service, a wide range of programs for young, old, fragile, active, retired and working adults

A New Look: Findings of TPC Planning Committee

CONCLUSIONS

1. *Demographic review:* Individuals 60+ is a growing demographic group that increasingly encompasses a broad spectrum of interests, needs and capabilities
2. *Delivery and Depth of Services and Programming* can be greatly improved, expanded, and made more efficient by:
 - Creating central location or hub with appropriate, flexible and thoughtfully designed spaces for offices, services, programs and gatherings for individuals 60+ now and into future
 - Integrating and supplementing program delivery across Town departments through evolving relationships, collaboration and leveraging use of multiple venues
 - Increasing partnerships through communication and coordination among departments to ensure effective outreach and programming

Tolles-Parsons Center: Renewed Vision

The Tolles-Parsons Center will serve as a hub of activity weaving together the resources of the entire community so that Wellesley's 60+ adults can lead a vibrant, engaged and healthy lifestyle in Wellesley.

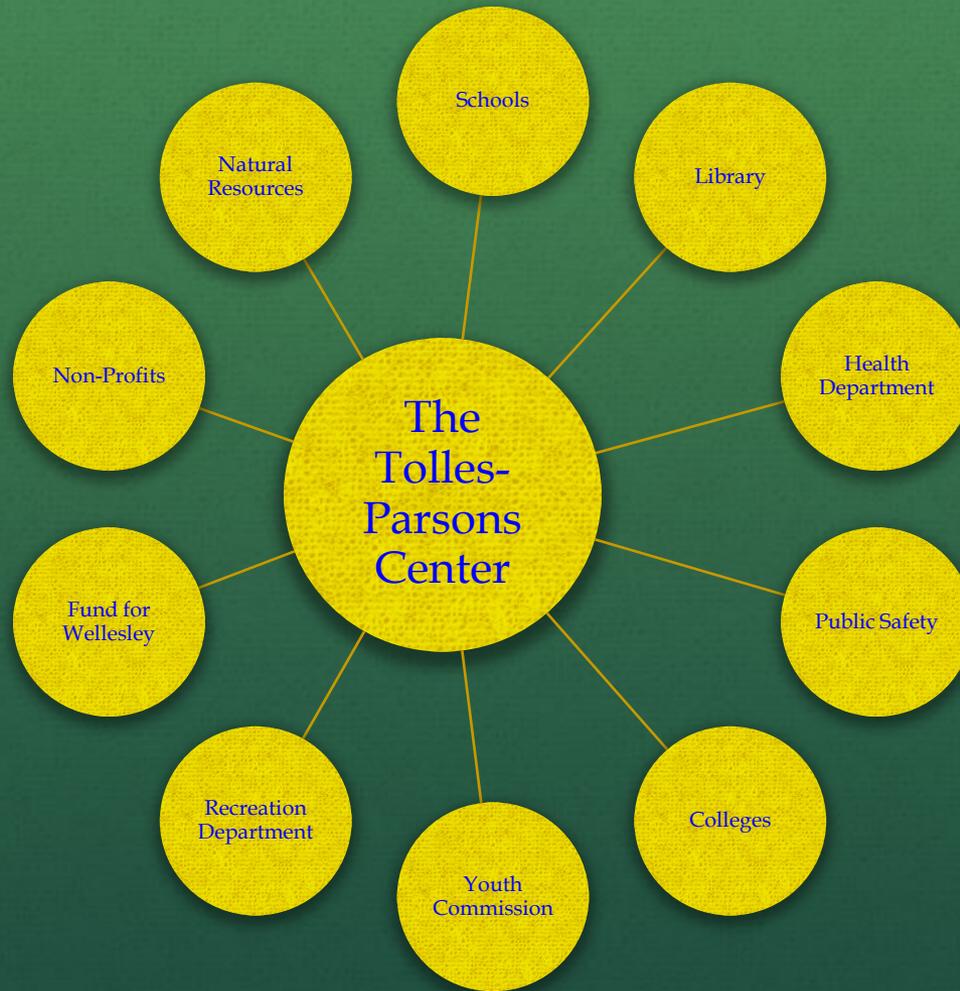
A New Look: Vision and Goals

It is time to reinvent and redesign ourselves so that we can:

- Provide a sense of place, a “communal home;” a place for friends to come together to socialize, connect, learn and participate in array of activities
- Create a service infrastructure with central location that allows people 60+ to remain in their homes and community by supporting aging in place
- Promote aging in place by supplementing home life with socialization, learning, exercising, volunteer opportunities, supportive services
- Serve as a gateway to effectively deliver and expand services and programs to meet the needs and interests of a diverse and ever changing population

The Tolles-Parsons Center

A Hub for Collaboration



The New Paradigm

- Creation of central location for COA to provide/coordinate services and programs
- Expansion and diversification of programs to enrich experiences for all participants
- Further collaboration and partnering with town departments, boards, schools and community groups
- Function as catalyst for coordination of services and programming

Which brings us to today . . .

Creation of the TPC Advisory Group

- Heather Sawitsky, Chair
- Jean Boyle
- Tim Driver
- David Himmelberger
- Dona Kemp
- Phil Laughlin
- Todd Himstead
- Kathleen Woodward

TPC Advisory Group Charge

To make a recommendation to TPC Planning Committee on a town-wide, integrated approach to 60+ service and programming delivery:

- Evaluate information and feasibility of the hub and spokes paradigm presented by TPC Planning Committee
- Review vision, service delivery approach, programming, space requirements necessary to meet current and future need of 60+ group
- Evaluate Town-wide resources and space availability to meet current and future needs of 60+ group
- Assess 496 Washington Street site as central hub for 60+ services and activities

TPC Advisory Group Work Plan

- Information review
- Review of hub and spokes paradigm
 - Hub as welcoming, accessible , focal point of COA mission, vision and goals with adequate and flexible spaces
 - Determine how each department/organization might contribute to furthering the mission, vision and goals of COA by strengthening the “spokes.”
- Integration of spokes into a comprehensive model
- Implementation outline
- Recommendation to TPC Planning Committee

Proposed Timeline

- December 11, 7 pm – Presentation by Planning Committee to Advisory Group
- Next 6-8 weeks – Advisory Group reviews materials, consults with town boards/committees, Planning Committee and others
- Mid-February – Advisory Group makes recommendation to Planning Committee
- Beginning of March – Planning Committee makes recommendation to BOS

Questions?