

**MEETING MINUTES
WINTHROP COUNCIL ON AGING**

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TOWN CLERK
WINTHROP, MASS.

Date: Thursday, April 13, 2023
Time: 10:30 AM
Location: Robert A. DeLeo Senior Center
35 Harvard Street, Winthrop, MA 02152

Present: Kathy Dixon, Director, Council on Aging
Alice Haskell, Chair
Linda Cronin
Kathy Driscoll
Cynthia Huff
Mary Vitale

Absent: Helen Haddow
Heather Martin

Call to order at 10:37 AM by Alice Haskell, Chair

I. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the Minutes of the March 9, 2023, meeting was made by Cynthia Huff and seconded by Linda Cronin and Mary Vitale. Minutes were approved.

II. Announcements

No new announcements were presented.

III. Director's Comments

A. Kathy Dixon reported that there will be a fundraising event at the Prince House of Pizza on Route 1, Saugus, on Friday, May 19, for Heather Martin's cousin. Tickets for this event are \$15. Kathy Dixon mentioned that Judie Van Kooiman's fundraising event for her non-profit organization is also taking place in May. Kathy Dixon reiterated that we are not able to sponsor events such as these due to our non-profit status. Alice Haskell mentioned that in the past we had a group that would donate money to people who had been affected by a disaster, but she had been advised by the Fire Department/Police Department that gift cards were a more suitable option than actual cash.

- B. Kathy Dixon reported that the Friends of the Winthrop Council on Aging's fundraising event at La Siesta was a big success and had been enjoyed by all who had attended/participated. With respect to other fundraising options, Alice Haskell mentioned that in the past we had had a table in the lobby with items of jewelry for people to purchase for a small donation, and that had been successful. Kathy Dixon reported that we have started this jewelry table up again.**
- C. Kathy Dixon reported that the Coffee and Conversation get-together for April has been canceled due to no coordinator being available for that day, but it will resume in May. Kathy Dixon reported that there has been a lot of very positive feedback on this monthly get-together. Linda Cronin indicated that both Susan Castella and Judie Van Kooiman have offered to coordinate this get-together in the future if Linda Cronin is not available.**
- D. Kathy Dixon reported that she will ask Sheila Hagan to set up an event for people to watch the DVDs that Alice Haskell obtained from WCAT depicting past Senior Center events which all agreed would be very interesting and a lot of fun to watch. Kathy Dixon indicated that Sheila is an excellent addition to our staff and is working out very well.**
- E. Kathy Dixon reported that she had spoken to Kirsten Kilburn of Bayada Health Care at the La Siesta fundraiser, and Kirsten is still very interested in being a part of the Senior Center and the community. Kathy Dixon and Kirsten met to talk about setting up a health fair. Kirsten has already provided Kathy Dixon with an Excel spreadsheet of statistics for setting up such an event. The plan is to have this take place in the Fall, on a weekday, and Kirsten will help with the details. Kathy Dixon would like to invite our local health care providers to this event, and she will have items available for handouts. She reported that the Winthrop Marketplace had donated all kinds of healthy fruits for a previous health fair. Linda Cronin indicated she would be very interested in helping get this underway.**
- F. Kathy Dixon reported that for our Pizza Party, which is rescheduled for Tuesday, May 16, we have more people signed up now than we did for the originally scheduled canceled date. Alice Haskell inquired how the pizza distribution will be handled so as to not conflict with the entertainment. Kathy Dixon indicated that the pizza would be served prior to the start of the entertainment and that people will be able to get their own pizza. She indicated that once we have a final head count of attendees, we can determine if we need more pizzas than what we already have coming from the local businesses donating them, i.e. Winthrop House of Pizza, Letterie's, Spinelli's, Luigis Pizza in Beachmont, etc. We will have a notice indicating what businesses have donated the pizzas for this event.**

- G. Kathy Dixon reported that she is planning to schedule three Winthrop Ferry trips this summer, in July, August and September. She indicated that the reason for having a nominal fee for events such as this is that often if an event is free, people will sign up for it but then not attend.
- H. Kathy Dixon reported that we will be inviting people such as Senator Lydia Edwards, Representative Jeff Turco, Town Manager Tony Marino, etc. to many of our events. Alice Haskell indicated that in the past there had been reserved tables at some of these events for people such as Senator Edwards, Representative Turco, Town Manager Marino, members of the Police and Fire Departments, etc., as well as members of the Winthrop Council on Aging. Kathy Dixon indicated we could do that if people wanted this.
- I. Kathy Dixon reported that she had received word from Rich Cifuni that he had put in a request for price quotes for a new roof for the Senior Center.
- J. There was a brief discussion on the sessions with Capic and National Grid at the Senior Center. Linda Cronin indicated that she was very impressed with the services of National Grid who attend the sessions with Capic and that they were very helpful in providing information on different options for less expensive electrical services.

IV. Adjournment

There being no further business, a Motion was made by Cynthia Huff and seconded by Linda Cronin that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned by Alice Haskell at 11:33 AM.

Respectfully Submitted
Kathy Driscoll
Member, Winthrop Council on Aging

Adopted by the Board at the meeting of
June 8, 2023

Alice Haskell, Chair
Winthrop Council on Aging