

MEETING MINUTES

WINTHROP COUNCIL ON AGING

Date: Thursday, May 8, 2025
Time: 10:30 AM
Location: Robert A. DeLeo Senior Center
35 Harvard Street, Winthrop, MA 02152

Present: Matt Rodes, Director, Council on Aging
Nicole Rizzotto, Assistant Director and Outreach Coordinator, Council on Aging
Kathy Driscoll
Cynthia Huff
Heather Martin

Absent: Alice Haskell, Chair, Council on Aging
Linda Cronin
Mary Vitale

I. Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order by Matt Rodes, Director, Council on Aging, at 10:30 AM.

II. Approval of Minutes

As there was not a Quorum present, a Motion to approve the Minutes of the April 10, 2025, Meeting will be made at our June meeting.

III. Programs Report

- A. Matt Rodes reported that Rose Kaye's updated report on Senior Center activities will be emailed to the Council members. Matt's Directors Notes for this meeting were emailed/distributed prior to the meeting.**
- B. Matt Rodes reported that the Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, July 29, with the menu being Chinese food. Invitations will be going out next month.**
- C. Matt Rodes reported that the Game Show event is scheduled for Tuesday, June 3, at 12:30, and the Forensic Science Road Show event is scheduled for Tuesday, June 24, at 12:30. He also reported that the cooking demonstration by Lighthouse Nursing Home, which will be a Waldorf Salad, is scheduled for Tuesday, May 20 at 11:00.**
- D. Matt Rodes reported that the CLEAR Team will be returning to the Senior Center on Wednesday, May 14, to do a presentation on their Peer Recovery Program. Two Peer Recovery Coaches will be in attendance.**

- E. Matt Rodes reported that the Mother's Day Ice Cream Social was a big success. The split the pot raffle was won by Alice Haskell.
- F. Matt Rodes reported that he will check into whether Senior MBTA passes are accepted on the Winthrop Ferry.
- G. Matt Rodes reported that 20 applicants have now been selected for the Tax Work-Off Program. Nicole Rizzotto is collecting all of the necessary paperwork. Jean Forbes and Holly Bartlett will be working at the Senior Center as part of this Program.
- H. Matt Rodes reported that the Senior Van Program has been very busy, with there being 75 rides on the previous day alone. He reported that we have had 235 total rides, with 133 being in Winthrop, through April 25. His Director's Notes, which were emailed to Council members prior to our meeting, indicate that there were 286 rides in March, with 191 being Winthrop rides, and there is \$1,377.50 remaining to subsidize the Winthrop rides. Heather Martin asked about timing logistics, with there sometimes being a wait for someone to be picked up. Matt indicated they are looking into alternatives for the longer-distance rides. Cynthia Huff suggest setting up a Lyft/Uber account for the longer-distance rides, but we would still need to figure out the timing logistics.
- I. Cynthia Huff inquired as to the Cardio Drumming program which had been discussed in a previous meeting. Nicole Rizzotto reported that the organizer of this program would like to do a performance here at the Senior Center to see if people would be interested in this. We would need to obtain yoga balls and drumsticks for this program. They are planning to schedule this for some time in the fall.
- J. Matt Rodes reported that Rose Kaye has been very busy planning and coordinating all of the Senior Center activities. A Celebration of Animation, presented by Marty Gitlin, is scheduled for Tuesday, July 31, at 12:30. This will be a presentation of animation from 15 different television shows. Matt reported that Rose is already planning our Valentine's Day Party for 2026, and Mystic Valley Elder Services, which will be celebrating their 50th anniversary at the various Senior Centers in their area, will be paying \$1,500 for this event. This may be an ice cream event, and the entertainment will be Alan LaBella.
- K. Matt Rodes reported that Mystic Valley Elder Services is checking to see if we could do a panini lunch in place of their annual barbecue.

IV. Outreach Report

There were no updates to report or discuss.

V. Director's Report

There was no additional business to report or discuss.

VI. Old Business

There was no old business to report or discuss.

VII. New Business

There was no new business to report or discuss.

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:08 AM. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, June 12, 2025.

Respectfully Submitted

Kathy Driscoll, Secretary, Winthrop Council on Aging

**Adopted by the Board at the meeting of
June 12, 2025**

**Alice Haskell, Chair
Winthrop Council on Aging**