

MEETING MINUTES

WINTHROP COUNCIL ON AGING

Date: Thursday, July 10, 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
Linda Cronin
Kathy Driscoll
Cynthia Huff
Heather Martin

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

I. Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order by Matt Rodes, Director, Council on Aging, at 10:35 AM.

II. Approval of Minutes

A Motion was made by Cynthia Huff and seconded by Heather Martin to approve the Minutes of the June 12, 2025 Council on Aging Meeting with one correction – under Programs Report, item E., the deadline to purchase tickets for the Police and Fire Department Barbecue is August 5, 2025.

III. Programs Report

- A. Matt Rodes distributed Rose Kaye's updated report on Senior Center activities.
- B. Matt Rodes reported that we were given two Grants this year for the group that conducted the hip hop chair dance event, and we are planning to conduct another event, this time perhaps a line dancing event, at the end of September, possibly September 23.
- C. Matt Rodes reported that the Coaster Painting session conducted by a representative of the PACE Program will be held on July 22.
- D. Matt Rodes reported that the Celebration of Animation event was well attended and was enjoyed by all.
- E. Matt Rodes reported that we are hoping to have the Game Show event again next year.

- F. Matt Rodes reported that the Yoga Ball Drumming session is still in the works. The person who conducts this session would like to do a demonstration first, and we are hoping to schedule this for late September or early October.**
- G. Matt Rodes reported that we recently had a Movie Day event and are hoping to start this up again on a monthly basis. The next Movie Day will be Tuesday, August 5, and the movie will be “The Incredible Mr. Limpet”.**
- H. Matt Rodes reported that reiki sessions can now be scheduled through December. These sessions are conducted on the second and fourth Mondays of every month.**

IV. Outreach Report

Matt Rodes reported that we are receiving many more medical escort ride requests. Nicole Rizzotto has been scheduling these with individual driver volunteers so that the van can be used for regular trips not requiring a medical escort. Matt reported that some physician’s offices have been reaching out to us with their schedules of patients needing a ride that requires a medical escort. He indicated that Bayada Health can provide this service if the patient is able to pay for it. Matt indicated that there have been discussions on the Senior Center perhaps purchasing a second vehicle to assist with the ride requests.

V. Director’s Report

- A. Matt Rodes reported that the Volunteer Luncheon will be held on July 29, with the menu being Chinese food from the Hong Kong Dragon.**
- B. Matt Rodes reported that the AC unit in our lobby is leaking and that the drain pipe needs to be replaced. He reported that the unit in the Computer Room needs a new drain pipe as well.**
- C. Matt Rodes reported that the van window has been replaced, and the van recently passed inspection. There will be an appointment for an oil change this month, on a Friday.**
- D. Matt Rodes reported that he spoke to a member of the Friends of the Winthrop Council on Aging about joining the Council on Aging as a liaison between the two groups. The member indicated she was open to that idea and would think about it and get back to him.**
- E. Matt Rodes reported that the Friends of the Winthrop Council on Aging will be having a fundraiser at La Siesta on Wednesday, September 17, from 4PM to 9PM. He reported that 10% of all meal and drink proceeds will go to the Friends. They are hoping to have raffle baskets near the venue entrance, and any donations for raffle items are welcome. They are also looking for volunteers to help with this event, to sell raffle tickets, etc. He also**

reported that the Friends are interested in doing an in-house raffle basket at the Senior Center perhaps every 2-3 months.

F. Matt Rodes reported that we are still looking into the possibility of showing any pertinent AARP videos or podcasts.

VI. Old Business

There was no old business to report or discuss.

VII. New Business

There was a discussion on appointing a new Vice Chair for the Council on Aging. Two members expressed interest in this position. This will be further addressed at our next meeting.

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business, a Motion to adjourn was made by Linda Cronin and seconded by Heather Martin. The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 AM. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, August 14, 2025.

Respectfully Submitted

Kathy Driscoll, Secretary, Winthrop Council on Aging

Adopted by the Board at the meeting of
August 14, 2025

Alice Haskell, Chair
Winthrop Council on Aging