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2023 JUN 22 AM 8:28

TOWN OF WILMINGTON, MA

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
Department of Elderly Services
15 School Street
Wilmington, MA 01887

Department of Elderly Services
Commissioners Meeting
April 20, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 1:30PM by Ken Clarkin with a salute to the flag and a moment of silence.

Roll Call:

Present was Ken Clarkin, Gail Protopapas, Mark Ryan, Robin Theodos, and John Wallace. Absent and excused in Nancy Otovic and Linda Walsh.

Minutes – Thursday, February 16, 2023

John Wallace moved to accept the minutes of Thursday, February 16, 2023, as written, it was seconded by Mark Ryan.

Upon motion made and seconded

Voted: To accept the minutes of February 16, 2023, as written.

Old Business:

New Business:

- **Free Income Tax Program:**

This year we were able to assist over 140 Wilmington seniors with their taxes. We will be writing a thank you to the AARP tax volunteers. We were very fortunate to have them this year and we are excited that they will be back again next year.

- **Game Nights – May through September – Third Thursday of every month:**

Game Night will be starting again next month. There will be a light dinner served along with games and painting. Game Night will be happening once a month on the third Thursday of the month through to September. More information about how to sign up will be in the May newsletter.

- **Cornhole – Led by Audrey Reed – Last Fridays of the month – through September:**

Cornhole will be on the last Friday of every month. Friday, March 31, 2023, was the first cornhole event and the feedback was very good. If this group keeps growing, we will get another cornhole set.

- **Bird Houses – May 10, 2023, at 1:00PM:**

Robert Boyce came to the center to donate to birdhouse pieces and paint. You may know of Robert as he made the fairy houses at Rotary Park. On May 10, 2023, at 1:00PM, we will be having a “build your own birdhouse” event. We thank Robert for donating these birdhouses and making this event possible.

- **Fun Day Event – May 31, 2023, 10:00AM-3:00PM:**

Fun Day is back. Fun Day will be on Wednesday, May 31, 2023. There are a lot of different games to play. Sue Devlin, who calls for BINGO, will be hosting many of the games. Players will win tickets throughout the event. At the end of the event, you may use these tickets to bid on items in our auction.

- **Home Delivered Meals Driver – needed – back up drivers:**

Bob Veno, who served as a home delivered meals driver for about 15 years has retired. Therefore, we need a couple back-up home delivered meals drivers. Terri asked the commission to help spread the word. Our routes for home delivered meals have really increased over the last couple of months and it has become difficult to have staff cover days.

Other important announcements include a presentation from Terri and Laura to the Selectmen about a week ago. Going forward, we are hoping to do this on a quarterly basis. The presentation went very well as we got a chance to let them know about some upcoming programs including the Alzheimer’s events that Laura has worked hard planning.

On Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at 2:15PM we will be having some students from the Wilmington High School chess club come to the center to either teach or to play chess with our seniors. If you are interested, please call the center to sign up.

On Friday, May 26, 2023, we will be having a Memorial Day luncheon. Terri has spoken with John Wallace to see if we can have the flags here at the center. Lou Cimaglia from Veteran’s Services will be invited to speak to us about the events of the weekend.

Pretty soon you will see a little garden in front of the center thanks to Esther Bailey. Esther is an avid gardener and approached Terri to do a special garden for us this year. This is a unique type of gardening as Esther uses bails of straw instead of pots of soil. She will be growing tomatoes, cucumbers, and a few flowers.

Also, save the date for our annual cookout on Wednesday, July 12, 2023. There will be a DJ and sundaes! There are a lot of other upcoming events including Munsey’s Magic. We have been planning a lot of events, taking advantage of the fact that things are back to normal. If anyone has any suggestions for events or programs to have at the center, please reach out to Terri.

Susanne Clarkin, seated in the audience, asked if we will be having the outdoor tent again this year. Terri responded that no, we will not be having the tent this year.

- **New Senior Center Committee Update:**

The Senior Center Building Committee meeting in April was cancelled. The OPM and architect have been working to add up the expenses. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 10, 2023. At this meeting, a price will be agreed upon. After, contractors will bid on the project. We are hopeful that we can start working on the land come October.

At our last meeting we discussed interior colors. The Focus Group and others who are interested in the process have decided to use "colors of nature" for the inside of the center.

- **Annual Town Meeting – Saturday, April 29, 2023, at 9:00AM**

Town voting is coming up this weekend. Please remind your peers to go out and vote. There are two openings for Selectmen. The town meeting will be at the high school auditorium. Bill Schultz seated in the audience asked if there will be warrants sent out in the mail. Terri responded that she was not sure if they had been sent out yet.

Comments from the audience:

None

Comments from the commissioners:

None

Adjourn:

There being no further business to come before the commission, Robin Theodos moved to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by John Wallace.

Upon motion made and seconded

Voted: To adjourn the meeting at 2:05PM.

Next commissioner's meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 18, 2023, at 1:30PM.
Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Fordham
Senior Clerk

