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2023 DEC 29 AM 9:12

TOWN OF WILMINGTON, MA

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

Department of Elderly Services
Commissioners Meeting
October 19, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 1:31PM by Ken Clarkin with a salute to the flag and a moment of silence.

Roll Call:

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

Minutes – Thursday, September 21, 2023

John Wallace moved to accept the minutes of Thursday, September 21, 2023, as written, it was seconded by Mark Ryan.

Upon motion made and seconded

Voted: To accept the minutes of September 21, 2023, as written.

Old Business:

- **Letter to Town Manager:**

The letter to the Town Manager from the Commissioners was read into notes.

New Business:

- **Flu Shots – October:**

The flu vaccine clinic was on Wednesday, October 11, 2023. 72 vaccines were administered. The Board of Health will be having a flu vaccine clinic at the Town Hall as well. Date will be announced.

- **Groundbreaking Event, October 25, 2023:**

We are having a groundbreaking party on Wednesday, October 25, 2023, at the Senior Center at 12:30PM. Before this, the Commissioners, some Town officials, the Focus Group, and the Senior Center Building Committee will be meeting at the site for a groundbreaking ceremony. George Hooper notified the Wilmington Apple, so they will be there to record the event.

- **Postpone Happiness seminar:**

The Happiness Is seminar has been postponed. We will be rescheduling this event. More information will be in future newsletters.

- **Halloween Celebration – Tuesday, October 31, 2023:**

Come dressed in costume to enter our costume party. A lunch will be served and prizes awarded for best costume.

- **Tewksbury/Wilmington Elks dinner – November 9, 2023:**

We were given tickets to hand out for the Tewksbury/Wilmington Elks dinner. In total we gave out 100 tickets.

- **Festival of Trees:**

This year the Festival of Trees is from December 1, 2023, to December 3, 2023, at Saint Dorothy's lower-level hall. Our tree's theme is "Holiday Cheers from the Senior Center." We are collecting ornaments for the tree including nips, champagne glasses, etc.

Also upcoming is our Annual Giving Tree. On Monday, November 27, 2023, we will be putting up our Giving Tree in the lobby. The tree will have labels on it, each label with a description of the person (male or female and age) and the type of gift needed. All gifts must be wrapped and returned with the tag to the Senior Center no later than Monday, December 18, 2023.

- **Homebound Meal – December 5, 2023 – Volunteers:**

Our special homebound meal will be delivered on Tuesday, December 5, 2023. We have plenty of volunteers. There will be 75 meals being delivered from Rocco's.

- **Reminder of upcoming holidays:**

Our holiday party is scheduled for Wednesday, December 6, 2023, from 6:00PM to 10:00PM. We tried to rent the hall at the Hillview Country Club in North Reading, but the price was too high. We decided to rent a hall at the Knights of Columbus. There will be a catered dinner from Mastroilli's and entertainment from DJ Dan.

Also coming up is "A Christmas Carol" performance by Delvina Theatre Company. We are excited to have them back to perform at the Senior Center. This performance will be on Friday, December 8, 2023, at 1:00PM.

- **New Senior Center Committee Update:**

As discussed at the last Commissioner's meeting, the contractor bids were submitted, and the lowest bid was 1.8 million dollars over the expected cost. There were two options to mitigate this. Option 1 was to have a special town meeting to ask for more funds. Option 2 was to use funds from the American Rescue Plan Act from the Federal government, which we meet the requirements to use.

It was decided at the Board of Selectmen meeting on September 25, 2023, to use the funds from the American Rescue Plan Act. This was great news as it means we can continue with our next steps.

There will be a groundbreaking party on Wednesday, October 25, 2023, followed by a party at the Senior Center.

Comments from the audience:

No comments.

Comments from the Commissioners:

No comments.

Adjourn:

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

Upon motion made and seconded

Voted: To adjourn the meeting at 2:30PM

Next commissioner's meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 16, 2023, at 1:30PM.
Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Fordham
Senior Clerk

Jeff Hull
Town Manager
Wilmington Town Hall
121 Glen Rd.
Wilmington, MA 01887

September 21, 2023

Dear Jeff,

On behalf of the Wilmington Elderly Services Center, we would like to thank you for your ongoing support that you have given us over the years, both past and present. We truly appreciate your work in helping to secure a new Wilmington Senior Center.

We know that among all the priorities the town has, the needs of the senior citizens have been foremost in your efforts to serve all its citizens. Budget requests come from many town needs including the schools, roads, and other municipal services. However, through your efforts and support, the Elderly Services Department has provided its senior citizens a treasure trove of activities and services to support the daily well-being of its seniors.

Through your support, the Senior Center has been a haven for the town elderly to gather and enjoy camaraderie with other elders, to share their life experiences, to laugh, cry and remember days gone by; but also to make new memories through all the daily programs that the center has to offer.

Without your support, the town elderly would slowly wither into dust. Thank you again from the bottom of our hearts. May you enjoy your retirement and join the seniors at our future events.

Sincerely,
Elderly Services Commissioners

Dancy A. O'Neil *John L. Wallace*
Paul Protopapas *Kenneth Clarkin*
Rolyn Bodor *Mark K. Ryan*
Kim Latt *10/1*

