Windham Community Organization December 13, 2017 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:46 p.m. Present were: Maureen Bell, Dawn Bower, Mary Boyer, Jo-Jo Chlebogiannis, Mia Clark, Joyce Cumming, Leila Ehrhardt, Kathy Jungermann, Cindy Kehoe, Imme Maurath, Ellen McDuffie, Carolyn Partridge, and Gail Wyman.

Ellen noted a correction to the October minutes: Cindy Kehoe is providing fruit for the gift trays, not Jo-Jo (based on quantity of fruit needed). Motion by Mary Boyer, seconded by Gail Wyman, to approve minutes with correction, passed unanimously.

Cindy Kehoe presented the Treasurer's report. **Balance on October 25, 2017 was \$6,440.99**; income totaled \$920.00 and expenses were \$1,763.10 for an ending balance of \$5,597.39 on December 13, 2017 (treasurer's report listed \$5,597.89). Brief discussion followed on the tables purchased by WCO (seven 8-ft. tables) and Windham Congregational Church (four 6-ft. tables) to replace all the old tables. The old tables were donated to the West Townshend Community Project.

Ellen opened discussion on Committee Reports.

Good Neighbors:

- Following up on recent email communication, Ellen reported that fuel assistance was provided to a resident in November prior to the annual effective date of the state fuel assistance program.
- A request has been received for assistance with a dental expense estimated at \$1600.
 Neighborhood Connections doesn't offer assistance in such cases. Carolyn mentioned a dentist in the Rockingham area whose fees are based on a sliding scale. Possible assistance through Greater Rockingham Area Services may be available; this request will need to be researched further.
- A family has requested help with Christmas gifts for children. Following brief discussion, Mary Boyer made a motion, seconded by Carolyn Partridge, to provide a Walmart gift card in the amount of \$100. Motion passed unanimously.
- An elderly resident could use help with shoveling. Jo-Jo and Imme offered to help.
 Carolyn mentioned a "helping hands" program offered at Neighborhood Connections that may also be able to assist. Brief discussion followed re: property tax issue.
- Ellen was contacted by Noreen at Neighborhood Connections regarding possible eviction of a family including a child with health needs. Carolyn offered to contact DCF and requested that either Noreen or Ellen provide her with details.
- Discussion was held on WCO year-end donations to support organizations. Last year, WCO contributed \$1,000 to Neighborhood Connections and \$250 each to food pantries in Londonderry and Townshend. Cindy suggested including the Chester-Andover Family Center. Motion was made by Carolyn Partridge, seconded by Mary Boyer, to donate \$1,000 to Neighborhood Connections, \$250 to Londonderry Food Pantry, \$250 to Townshend Food Pantry, and \$250 to Andover-Chester Family Center. Discussion followed on programs offered by the various organizations and communities served by each organization. It was not clear whether Chester-Andover Family Center programs/services were available to residents of neighboring towns such as Windham.

Further research is needed. Carolyn amended the motion to repeat last year's support with donations as follows: \$1,000 to Neighborhood Connections, \$250 to Londonderry Food Pantry, and \$250 to Townshend Food Pantry. Mary Boyer seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mary Boyer made a motion to donate \$100 to the Chester-Andover Family Center in the spirit of the holidays. Cindy Kehoe seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

 News and Notes: Deadline for article submission is December 15. Discussion followed on deadline for delivery to printer and holiday closing schedule. Imme offered to take charge of getting the issue to the printer.

Old Business:

 Harvest Supper on November 11. Attendance was down from years past. Net profit this year totaled \$550.96. A thank-you letter is due for donation of \$250. A suggestion was made to reduce the quantity of hams from 4 to3 next year. Imme preferred to leave it at 4. Further discussion was tabled until another time.

New Business:

- Year-end tax letters need to be sent.
- The cookie/fruit distribution list was reviewed and edited.
- Ellen suggested holding a "Meet the Candidates" night in February in advance of Town Meeting.
 The event will be scheduled to coincide with the February WCO meeting on February 28th and will be advertised in News and Notes.

Announcements included holiday events at local churches.

Motion to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. was made by Jo-Jo Chlebogiannis, and seconded by Imme Maurath. Motion passed unanimously.

Christmas cookie and fruit plates were assembled, followed by the Yankee Gift Swap holiday party.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Cumming Secretary