

Chaplin Senior Center

Board of Directors

132 Chaplin Street

Chaplin, CT 06235

The Board of Directors for the Chaplin Senior Center met for its regular meeting on Tuesday, **June 6, 2023**, in the Senior Center craft room.

Members present: Chairperson Irene Schein, Ann Lewis, Shirley Rakos, Jeanette Haines, Dawn Gilbert, Ellen Gillon, and Carl Linkkila; alternates Robin Hoagland, Janice Godaire, and Joyce St. Lawrence; Director Lisa Kegler, and Victoria Northrop (recording clerk).

- 1. Irene Schein called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.** Alternates St. Lawrence, and Hoagland were seated for Gebhardt and Zlotnick.
- 2. Audience for Citizens:** None present.
- 3. Minutes:** The minutes of the Board Meeting of May 2, 2023 were approved unanimously, after a motion was initiated by Jeanette and seconded by Ellen.
- 4. Old Business**

4a. Director's Report:

- a. Special Revenue Fund: \$40,865.20
- b. Cash on Hand: \$338.56
- c. Membership: 379
- d. Dues Collected: \$2590
- e. Correspondence: None

Lisa reported that the Plant and Grinder Sale fundraiser was a huge success, with the volunteers being a tremendous help. After expenditures for plants, seeds, and hanging baskets, and including the raffle, the net profit resulting was \$5694.00. The Board discussed how they would like to thank all the volunteers and the Director for all their hard work on the sale and it was agreed, after some discussion about gift cards, that it would be best to treat all the volunteers to a nice lunch out. Carl made a motion to this effect, Ellen seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

Lisa informed the Board that upcoming events include a Plant and Seed Swap on June 17th (rain date June 24th) with games, snacks and of course plants. On June 21st in honor of Make Music Day, the Ukulele Band will be performing under the tent with refreshments. Lisa also let the Board know about the upcoming library event featuring a master gardener on Seed Saving, which will take place on 14 June at 6pm.

4b. Art Committee Update

1. The Irene Glynn exhibit went well. Joan Blade Johnson's fiber art is now being displayed, and Linda Rogers is slated for the July exhibit. Victoria agreed to send Linda an e-mail in order to request her biography for Lisa to place in the next newsletter. Lisa says that the hanging and putty on the wall have created no unusual problems.
2. Potential future exhibitors the Art Committee has located so far include: Franco (landscape painter), who will be contacted by Joyce St Lawrence, potentially for August; a retrospective of the late Chaplin artist Pat Browne, the photography of Bruce Raymond from Chaplin. Sue Pfeifer was also suggested, as well as a potential children's peace art exhibit and contacting Brian Cohen. There will probably be no exhibit in September/October due to renovations.
3. Victoria would like to add to the August agenda the potential of changing out the old floral curtains in the multi-function room with more neutral painted wooden architectural valances/cornices, as they would be less prone to clash with or distract from the artwork being displayed. She will e-mail the Board with examples of said window treatments and estimated cost.

4c. Community Center Issues:

Lisa was able to order paper goods (TP/paper towels) for the Community Center use from the Rec. Commission budget so the Senior Center doesn't have to use its own for the Community Center. Lisa is also going to address the issue of having the room swept and mopped periodically by getting an estimate from the custodian for the cost of including a quarterly (or 3x/annum) cleaning.

4d. Multi-Function Room Renovations: still up in the air, most likely to happen September/October

4e. Chair Cleaning: The chair cleaning is slated to take place on June 19th. The Library will also get theirs done at the same time. Lisa and Sandy intend to wheel all chairs into the dining room on the racks so they can be cleaned (for the approved cost of \$3 /chair).

5. New Business

5a. Event/Trip for the seniors: Lisa did some research about a boat trip for the seniors who regularly use the Center and found a river cruise in Essex and a historical paddleboat on a lake in Webster MA. The river cruise could hold up to 45 people, the paddleboat has a larger capacity of up to 125. The Essex cruise would be approximately \$2500 for the boat, and the paddleboat is about \$25 per person. The Center would cover the costs of bus transportation, the boat, and refreshments for the participants. The Board discussed the cost, the timing (daytime) of the trip, and who would be invited first to participate (the seniors who most actively use the center). Carl

made a motion to allocate up to 10k for the trip from special revenue, as the money is earmarked for the benefit of the seniors and their enjoyment. Dawn seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

5b. The Agent for the Elderly: Ann Lewis is stepping down from the Agent for the Elderly position and would like to bring to the attention of the Board the search for the next person to fill the position, and recommends that both the Center Director and the Chair/Board potentially have input in the interviewing process. The position entails 2 mornings per month at the Center, being on-call to assist seniors with information on resources for the elderly such as SNAP, Medicare, Social Security, etc. Ann talked about the position's compensation as well. The Board agreed that Lisa should contact Juan Roman about input from the Senior Center about the next person to be hired for the position.

5c. Evaluation of the Director, as Required by the Town: After Lisa recused herself, the Board discussed the Director's evaluation. The Board members gave a glowingly positive response in feedback to Lisa's continued vested interest, engagement, kindness, creativity, and diligence in running the Center. Irene will write a letter in this regard to the Board of Selectmen.

5d. Changes in Board Membership Update: As Board terms expire at the end of June, Irene will e-mail those who will be resigning/changing position or being sworn in for the first time to schedule their swearing in with the BoS/Town Hall in July, as the Board will not be meeting in July.

6. Suggestions for Next Regular Meeting: Discussion of the Center's participation in the September "Chaplin Day" event. A subcommittee for this event was created, including Dawn, Joyce, Janice, and Lisa.

7. Next Meeting Date: August 1, 2023 @ 10 a.m. Victoria noted that she will not be present at that meeting, so minutes will need to be taken by someone else.

8. Adjournment: the meeting was adjourned at 11.07 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Victoria Northrop, recording clerk