

CHAPLIN AD-HOC BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Chaplin, Connecticut

Meeting Minutes

March 8, 2022

Chairperson Leslie Ricklin called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM. Present were members Warren Church, Dick Weingart, Anne Sicilian, Julie Lindquist, Bill Rose, Bob Grindle and Ann Lewis.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 8, 2022:

Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes from February 8, 2022, was made by Bill Rose, seconded by Anne Sicilian and carried unanimously.

4. AUDIENCE FOR CITIZENS: None

5. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Motion to move Item #6i - Communication with the Recreation Commission to beginning of Item #6 Old Business, was made by Bill Rose, seconded by Julie Lindquist and carried unanimously.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

Dick Weingart/Warren Church – Communication with the Recreation Commission:

- The Bicentennial Account includes \$1,115 taken in for Calendars and \$1,450 taken in for sponsorships through February 28th (Julie asked if sponsorships include ads and Warren would like to see tracking – Dick will check on).
- Met with the Rec Commission to discuss scheduling that needs list of events with time slots to setup bands (working around the schedule of main events established previously). The Rec Commission would like to meet as a group with a few members of this Committee to pin down a schedule (Dick, Warren and Leslie will meet with the Rec Commission). Other events to be included: the Ukulele Band, events for young children, Yoga, the Babcock Band, and other bands (from Rec Commission).

a. Warren Church – the play:

There was an article in the Chronicle about Rusty Lanzit looking for volunteers for the play. Warren Church is looking for ideas on how to get people for the cast and has volunteered (Committee asked to check with Town Agencies, husbands, sons and neighbors). Leslie Ricklin asked if the church would cover liability (liability is covered for any town sponsored event on town property). Warren Church suggested an insurance rider (Leslie will follow up with the 1st Selectman).

b. Anne Sicilian - “Celebrate Chaplin” poster activity:

There has not been much interest in the poster activity (Anne suggested the possibility of having materials available at the library on Saturday mornings for kids to work on posters).

c. Bob Grindle – signage/posters:

It is time to order lawn signs similar to the sign at Town Hall without “Save the Date”. 50 signs would cost close to \$400 (different sign with smaller quantity would cost more) and should be put out now to generate interest in the Bicentennial. Julie Lindquist suggested a simpler sign to see better when driving by (waving flag could be distracting). Dick Weingart suggested keeping the flag, toning down the colors and changing the wording to “Chaplin Bicentennial, Sept. 10, 2022” (Bob will contact Gagnon Signs with lettering change and email mockup to each member).

d. Julie Lindquist – calendar sales:

There is 1 calendar at the library plus the addition of 5-6 dropped off by Anne and some at the Senior Center (Warren has some extras as well). Anne Sicilian has kept 2 calendars for people on FB who have expressed interest in them as souvenirs.

e. All members – report on ad solicitation:

Discussed several issues including: getting a separate email (will be covered later on the agenda); where to send the ads (Julie suggested having one system for everyone to follow); who is in charge of the design for the main event program and the playbill (Johan has expressed interest with the artistic setup and Julie volunteered to be the liaison with Johan and the printer); number of programs and playbills to order (100 copies of the playbill will be printed in house); who is in charge to get the e-ads from the email (Ann Lewis and Anne Sicilian volunteered).

f. Bill Rose - Museum and the Parade:

A mockup spreadsheet was made for the parade with a list of potential people to participate including: the Library, Senior Center, Board of Selectmen, schools, and Boy/Girl Scouts. Bill Rose presented invitation for participation in the parade that will go out to the Google Groups and Facebook Page. A Fife & Drum Corp has expressed interest and will reach out to several fire departments including neighboring towns and some sponsors such as Green Valley Tree and Beaver Brook Logging. The parade could start at noon and needs to wrap up a half hour before Opening Ceremonies. The floats would remain on display at Garrison Park (coordinated with the Rec Commission). Dick Weingart suggested parking the floats along the fence between Joshua's Trust property (the Rec Commission expressed concerns about space for food trucks) and suggested starting the parade earlier (parade started at 10:30am at the 175th Celebration). Bill Rose expects the parade to not last more than 1-1/2 hours depending on the number of participants.

g. Leslie Ricklin – report about T-shirts:

Leslie Ricklin presented t-shirts that cost \$6.50 each and will be sold for \$10 each.

Dick Weingart left the meeting at 5:15 PM.

h. Ann Lewis – update on Facebook page:

Posts in the last month have reached 1,608 people with 4 new followers. The top performing post was about call for volunteers for the play from Rusty Lanzit that reached 1300 people. Posts from the last month include: the March Quilting Exhibit, another call for volunteers for the play from Rusty Lanzit, and volunteers needed for the parade. Upcoming posts will include: Parade Invitation letter from Bill Rose, T-shirt fundraiser with photo and where they will be available possibly at the Library, Senior Center and Town Hall (Anne will check with the Library and Senior Center).

i. Dick Weingart/Warren Church – communication with the Recreation Commission:

Moved to Item 6 Old Business.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Discussion and use of the new email address: visitchaplinct@chaplinct.org

Information was received from the First Selectman regarding an email that was created (with a password) looking beyond the Bicentennial that envisions a website to be used as a Visitor Center at the old Post Office (could be used by the Bicentennial Committee). Leslie Ricklin expressed concerns regarding how the website would be utilized and will follow up with the 1st Selectman (Bill suggested using for FOI reasons instead of personal emails and using to post agendas and incoming digital ads from sponsors). One person would be needed to handle the new email (Ann Lewis volunteered).

b. Windham Concert Band scheduled for June 25 at 6pm at Garrison Park:

The Windham Concert (co-sponsored by the Library and Senior Center) is scheduled for June 25th. 60 chairs need to be taken to the pavilion at Garrison Park at 5pm (Leslie suggested getting Parish Hill students with chairs from the Senior Center and will check with the Rec Commission about food trucks

for the event). Ann Lewis suggested asking the Rec Commission to move the chairs. Bill Rose volunteered his truck and trailer to move the chairs.

c. Discussion about creating a Time Capsule:

Bill Rose suggested Garrison Park for a time capsule for the Bicentennial that could include: flyers from the play, September 10th program, the Calendar, the t-shirt and a mask. Leslie Ricklin suggested copy of the 2022 Town Report, a photo and to make sure there is a marker for the site. The Committee was asked to check with the community for suggestions.

8. SUGGESTIONS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA:

- Time Capsule
- Anne Sicilian suggested inviting former Selectmen to honor them (Warren suggested honoring them with a photo in the program).

9. ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn (5:30 PM) was made by Bob Grindle, seconded by Warren Church.

*Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Scott
Recording Clerk*