

**CHAPLIN AD-HOC BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE**  
**Chaplin, Connecticut**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**April 13, 2021**

Chairperson Leslie Ricklin called the meeting to order at 4:07 PM. Present were members Warren Church, Dick Weingart, Anne Sicilian (remotely), Bob Grindle and Julie Lindquist. Unable to attend was Kayse Pellegrino and First Selectman Bill Rose.

3. AUDIENCE FOR CITIZENS: None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 9, 2021:

*Motion to approve the minutes from March 9, 2021, was made by Julie Lindquist, seconded by Bob Grindle and carried unanimously.*

5. REPORTS ON COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS FROM MARCH MEETING:

a. Dick Weingart – Budget (members discuss costs/sponsors re: printing the calendar, framing the founding documents, banner(s), programs for play, celebration day Sept. 9, souvenirs):

**Budget** - Dick Weingart reported on the funds that the town is setting aside for the Bicentennial Celebration. The funds can be spent on whatever is reasonable and approved by the Committee with no restrictions to speak of. Current funds set aside is \$15,000 with another \$10,000 expected for July 1<sup>st</sup>. A request was made for a final allocation of \$20,000 for July 1, 2022. The cost to do the minutes has been funded through the BOS budget. The cost for the Fireworks display will be \$20,000 and includes required police involvement. Dick Weingart doesn't have any experience with sponsors but may know someone that does.

**Expenditures** – Discussion was held regarding how to deal with expenditures including: obtaining a cost estimate (should be done by the individual(s) coordinating the event); use funds for seed money to purchase items to sell; reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses (town cannot reimburse sales tax); approval of expenses (Dick Weingart suggested 2 Committee members for small amounts and the entire Committee for large amounts). Dick Weingart will draft a procedure, review with the First Selectman and Finance Manager and bring back to the Committee for approval.

**T-shirts** – Discussion was held regarding the following: how many to purchase (start with 1,000), best sizes to order (Anne Sicilian will check with Anne Chuk who has experience), is there an approved Vendor List (Anne Sicilian will check with the Rec Commission that places many orders), design for the shirt (Leslie Ricklin suggested "Celebrate Chaplin 1822-2022" and the new color logo), extra T-shirts (Warren Church suggested giving to the Band for performing, Bob Grindle suggested putting on display for sale in the Library).

**Play Program** - Warren Church presented a sample program from the Willimantic Orchestra that uses 8-1/2 by 11 sheets making it easy to put together and charges \$90 a whole page/\$25a quarter page for business cards. A similar program could be used for the play, include sponsors (many companies have their own design) and sent to Gulemo Printers. Julie Lindquist presented program from the last play that includes: the Town Play, various events going on, history of the town, articles written by Jean Givens, and map of Chaplin. It would be good to sell as a Commemorative Booklet. Warren Church presented some commemorative medals for the Committee to consider. Julie Lindquist suggested getting the US Postal Service to issue a Bicentennial Commemorative Stamp. Leslie Ricklin ordered a large vinyl calendar and would like to post at the Library to show what the Committee is planning.

**Signs and banners** – Bob Grindle asked if there is an approved vendor for signs (Leslie Ricklin will send him the town approved vendor). He suggested some general reusable signs (such as pole banners) to display now to show that the Bicentennial is coming for 2022. An electronic sign at the Fire Department is in the works and could display the various Bicentennial events. Signs Plus offers a one-sided 4ft x 8ft sign for \$140. The Senior Center has a-frame signs in storage that would be very effective out front – some with changeable letters and some that would need to be painted (Bob Grindle volunteered to paint the signs).

**Calendar** – Julie Lindquist presented newspaper clippings from the dedication of the Hubbard Sanctuary and a template of the calendar that includes: a color photo of the town logo, color photo of Diana's Pool, standard American holidays, major Jewish holidays, photos of identified town buildings (courtesy of Victor Boomer), the four seasons, phases of the moon, and space in the back for sponsors and adds. The cost is \$3.50 plus 50 cents for stitch binding (need to decide how much to sell the calendar for). Bob Grindle suggested the calendar would pay for itself without adds and suggests using the space in the back for the history and map of Chaplin. The adds could go in the Play Program and Commemorative Booklet and the Calendar could be stand-alone. Warren Church suggested the Calendar Committee come back with ideas for the pages in the back. Julie Lindquist and Leslie Ricklin were commended for their work on the calendar.

**b. Warren Church - First Town Meeting Play & Date: July 2, 2022, band:**

The Babcock Band will perform on the same day as the play. Warren Church has a medium sized calendar to pencil in events. Director Sydney Dubitsky will be contacted regarding the start time for the play that will be held in the church (needs painting - matching historic grants are available). Sally Zimmerman has purchased a house across from the church and is very excited to help with the Bicentennial. She is a great resource for grant writing as a member of the New England Preservation group. Julie Lindquist suggested reaching out to Craig McNally who does a lot of painting in town.

**c. Anne Sicilian - School outreach:**

Anne Sicilian reported that the schools are very busy nearing the end of the school year and suggested approaching them again in the next school year. She suggested having kids or families tell stories about why they like living in Chaplin. Warren Church suggested having recreational events for the kids (Anne Sicilian will check with the Rec Department). Julie Lindquist suggested reaching out to Parish Hill for participation with many staff and students spotlighted in their Newsletter.

**d. Bob Grindle – Articles:** There are no new articles at this time.

**e. Leslie – Senior Center contact, library talks, copies of Chaplin's founding documents:**

Walks are dependent on the weather with most to be held on the weekend with a rain date of the next day. Planned walks include: Rattlesnake Hill (starts at Garrison Park and ends at the second highest point in Chaplin) planned for a weekend in November, walk by Juan Sanchez and Hubbard walk by Deb Fields. Warren Church will be the contact person for any questions and suggested announcing the walks with the A-frame signs.

**f. Bill - Museum: No Report**

**g. Kayse – Garden Tours:** Waiting to hear about 6 people that might be interested.

**6. CONTINUE WORK ON THESE PROJECTS. ARE THERE OTHER PROJECTS WE NEED TO FOCUS ON?**

**7. SECOND AUDIENCE FOR CITIZENS:** None

**8. SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT AGENDA:**

- Procedure for Expenditures
- Founding Documents
- Signs Update
- Invitation for Dignitaries

**9. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting will be held on May 11<sup>th</sup> at 4pm in the Library.

**10. MOTION TO ADJOURN:**

***Motion to adjourn (5:36 PM) was made by Bob Grindle, seconded by Dick Weingart and carried unanimously.***

***Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Scott  
Recording Clerk***