

**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, **March 3, 2026**, in the Senior Center craft room.

Members present: Chairperson Irene Schein, Shirley Rakos, Ann Lewis, Robin Hoagland, Ellen Gillon, Janice Godaire, Dawn Gilbert, Carl Linkkila; alternates Joyce St. Lawrence, Sally Ireland, and Victoria Northrop (also acting as recording clerk); Director Lisa Kegler and Assistant Director Lynn Grindle.

1. Irene Schein called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. Sally was seated for Crystal Gebhardt.
2. **Additions to the Agenda:** None
3. **Audience for Citizens:** None
4. **Minutes:** The minutes of the Board Meeting of February 3, 2026 were approved unanimously after a motion was initiated by Ellen and seconded by Janice.
5. **Old Business**

**5a. Director's Report:**

- a. Special Revenue Fund: \$41,299.83 as of 1/31/26
- b. Cash on Hand: \$132
- c. Membership: 428
- d. Dues collected for 2026 thus far: \$1005

Lisa gave the Board a detailed breakdown of the Center's use and activities for February 2026

- There were 586 individual visits to the Center in February.
- 343 lunches were served.

Her breakdown included the number of participants in all of the Center's regular activities, the most popular being: 91 doing 'Fit and Fun,' 49 playing Mahjongg, and 44 in the breakfast club. There were many other small, well-attended activities ranging from bingo to pickleball. She noted that, due to the frigid and snowy weather, fewer people had been able to come in.

The Center will be hosting its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Chili Cook-off on March 14<sup>th</sup>. There will be a St. Patrick's Day lunch on the 16<sup>th</sup> with live music by Bruce John. Lisa noted that Stacey Gendreau's reflexology sessions were becoming increasingly popular with the seniors. Lisa is beginning to organize and prepare for the annual Plant and Grinder Sale that is upcoming in May.

### **5b. Art Committee Update**

Ellen informed the Board that the art space is booked until May, with the following artists and points of contact:

**March:** currently exhibiting Linda Lasko

**April:** Linda Gorman

**May:** Lyn Johnson (TBD)

Victoria informed the art committee that she will probably be taking a hiatus from the committee through spring/summer due to travel.

**5c. Entertainment Update:** Bruce John will be playing at the St. Patrick's Day lunch; Al Raeback will be playing at the Chili Cook-off. Nothing is booked for April as of yet.

**5d. Facility Update:** Lisa reported that the facility has been doing well other than the common problem of ice-dams forming on the roof following the snowstorms and backing up into the inside of the Senior Center. Ceiling tiles will be replaced once the risk of recurrence has ended.

**6. New Business:** none at this time.

**6c. Correspondence:** none at this time.

### **7. Suggestions for Next Regular Meeting:**

Lisa asked for suggestions from the Board for a trip for the seniors once the weather becomes warmer; some were made on the spot including:

- Wickham Park in East Hartford
- Harkness Park
- Mystic Aquarium/Olde Mistick village
- Newport Mansions/Green Animals Topiary Garden
- Sturbridge Village
- Butterfly Museum and Yankee Candle

The Board will discuss this further in April.

The Board will also discuss preparation for the upcoming plant/grinder sale fundraiser on May 9th. Lisa put the call out for volunteers to assist with the sale and its preparations. Lisa has begun growing the seedlings in her greenhouse and has already ordered 65 hanging baskets and will be looking for more. Many board members have already said they will assist with everything from lettering the plant stakes to set up or checkout.

**8. Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting is April 7, 2026 @ 10 a.m.

**9. Adjournment:** the meeting was adjourned at 10:22.

Minutes submitted by Victoria Northrop, recording clerk