

**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 2, 2026**, in the Senior Center craft room.

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

1. Irene called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. Victoria was seated for Janice Godaire.
2. **Additions to the Agenda:** None
3. **Audience for Citizens:** Linden Weiss was present.
4. **Minutes:** The minutes of the Board Meeting of May 5, 2026 were approved after a motion was initiated by Dawn and seconded by Ellen.
5. **Old Business**

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

- a. Special Revenue Fund: \$39,231.15
- b. Cash on Hand: \$215.00
- c. Membership: 435
- d. Dues collected for 2026 thus far: \$1,225

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

- There were 760 individual visits to the Center in May.
- 405 lunches were served.

Her breakdown included the number of participants in all of the Center's regular activities, the most popular being: 120 doing 'Fit and Fun,' 66 playing Mahjongg, and 60 in the breakfast club. There were many other small, well-attended activities ranging from bingo to pickleball.

The Center's annual Plant & Grinder Sale Fundraiser was a huge success. 143 grinders were sold for a profit of \$787; the plants sold for a profit of \$4529, with a total profit of \$5316. Lisa thanked profusely all of the volunteers who helped with the event. She is already thinking about next year and is adding a new greenhouse, which will give additional space potentially for hanging baskets.

The Parish Hill choir, which was supposed to perform this month, has canceled. On June 13<sup>th</sup> there will be the annual Plant & Seed Swap from 10am to noon. Refreshments and games will be involved. On the 17<sup>th</sup> of June the Chaplin Library will have a thoughtful lecture event on death and dying and invites the seniors to attend. On June 18<sup>th</sup> there will be a fall prevention session at the Center sponsored by Day Kimball Hospital. In honor of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the U.S., on July 1 the Center will be hosting an indoor picnic at noon with a barbeque. Local historian Sally Zimmerman is looking for "centennial families" who have been settled in Chaplin for a hundred years or more, and wants to give a commemorative proclamation to the elders of the families. Lisa also has on offer for the seniors a "File of Life" document they can fill out, laminate, and attach to their fridge or elsewhere which contains important medical history in the event they are incapacitated and paramedics need that history.

On August 25<sup>th</sup> the Center will be hosting its annual Vintage Car Show at Garrison Park from 5-7pm. There will be a DJ playing 50's and 60's music, grilled barbeque, and a raffle. Lisa is still looking for 3 judges.

Lisa is taking day trip suggestions for this summer from the Center's members. So far the primary interest is in Mystic Aquarium and/or attending a baseball game like in past years.

It is still unclear when the work on the parking lot is going to commence and whether it will necessitate closure of the Center and for how long. She will let the Board know when she does.

The Senior Center's bingo caller, Ann Ireland Poudrier has been chosen to participate in a national event called the "Miss Amazing Pageant" in Chicago and is fundraising for the trip to represent Chaplin and promote awareness of disability. Lisa suggested the Center make a small donation to assist Ann in this pursuit. Dawn moved that the Board allocate \$100 from the special revenue fund to be transferred via the national representative to Ann's costs to attend the event. The motion was seconded by Joyce and passed unanimously.

Shirley spoke to the Board and proposed that, as they did last year, Lisa be given a thank-you reimbursement/gift for the tremendous effort and many expenses of growing the majority of the plants for the fundraiser, heating the greenhouse in such a cool spring, fueling the sizeable truck for pickup and delivery of the plants and hanging baskets, and the large time commitment. Irene moved that the Board allocate \$800 for this

reimbursement. Ann seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Shirley informed the Board that she would pick up a gift card for Lisa.

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

Because the dates the Center will be closed for the parking lot construction are still unknown, the Art Committee will ask Scott Rhodes to be flexible and potentially leave his July exhibit up longer if the closure happens in July. Victoria contacted Bruce Raymond and he has selected and framed a dozen works for display as needed. She can arrange to hang his framed photography as needed (or provide it for another Art Committee member to hang if it happens while she is away in August).

**July:** Scott Rhodes

**August:** Bruce Raymond

**September or beyond:** Irene suggested Amy Kalisher and says she will contact her.

### **6. New Business:**

**6a: Facility Update:** Lisa had mentioned that about half of the Center's chairs require cleaning again. She would also like to get the carpets cleaned after the parking lot construction and potentially the grout in the bathrooms and windows cleaned. At this point it is unclear whether the Center's maintenance budget would be able to cover the costs or whether they would need to come from the Special Revenue. Lisa obtained a bid for \$3.50 per chair, \$800 for the carpet and has also received bids for the other cleaning but is contemplating using other cleaners.

**6b. Correspondence:** none additional at this time.

**7. Suggestions for Next Regular Meeting:** refinement of the timing and costs of the cleaning projects.

**8. Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting is August 4, 2026 @ 10 a.m.

**9. Adjournment:** the meeting was adjourned at 10:40.

Minutes submitted by Victoria Northrop, recording clerk