

Chaplin Bicentennial Arboretum Commission
Special Meeting Minutes
March 5, 2026
Chaplin Town Hall

1. Chair Helen Weingart called the meeting to order at 3:08. Present were members Dave Stone and Leslie Ricklin
2. Approval of minutes of special meeting of Feb. 3, 2026: L. Ricklin moved and D. Stone seconded to approve the minutes. Motion carried.
3. Debrief the results of the Pollinator Pathway presentation by Native Plant landscape designer:
 - a. Consider any changes to the plan based upon input from the public: Helen will contact two residents about what native Chaplin plants and seeds could be put in the meadow areas.
 - b. Submit a request to Earthtones nursery for the final pathway plan: a plan needs to be resubmitted to the DOT re: the retaining wall. Dave moved to submit a request to Earthtones for this final plan as soon as possible. Leslie seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - c. Consider necessary changes in the plan that will meet the requirements of the DOT for a permit for the grass slope along Rt 198. The Arboretum agrees with recommended changes made by the landscape designer regarding flat stones instead of a retaining wall.
4. Follow up with the designer for ideas to promote the use of native plants in local gardens. This includes inviting the designer and/or someone to come to present a workshop to promote the use of native plants.
5. Update on the status of revising the Arboretum Ordinance to include the responsibility of the Pollinator Pathway. Dave said he would contact the town attorney to start this process.
6. Next regular meeting is on April 28, 2026.
7. Meeting adjourned at 3:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Ricklin, Secretary