

# Chaplin Bicentennial Arboretum Commission

## Regular Meeting Minutes

April 22, 2025

1. Call to order: the Chair called the meeting to order at 3:05. Present: Helen Weingart, Dave Stone, Leslie Ricklin.
2. Approval of minutes for February 25, 2025: Leslie moved, and Dave seconded to approve the minutes. So, moved.  
Dave moved, and Leslie seconded to approve the minutes of the special meeting of March 26, 2025. So, moved.
3. Audience for Citizens: None
4. Additions to the Agenda: Dave moved to add a discussion for use of the pine grove area on Route 198 once the trees are removed. Leslie seconded. So, moved. This is **item f.** under New Business.  
Dave moved to make a payment amount to Amy Kallisher for her work on the revised arboretum map. Leslie seconded. So moved. This is **item g.** under New Business.
5. Budget Report: Dave reported that there is \$1,885.17 in the General Fund and \$5,153.88 in the Restricted Fund
6. Tree Health update: Dave reported that the new ash tree should be treated. He moved that the Commission approve up to \$300 to address urgent tree health issues as needed for any fiscal year. Leslie seconded. So, moved.
7. Continuing Business:
  - a. Update on Arbor Day program April 25: Helen will make 10 copies of 2 handouts that Jane Seymour sent to her on Native Plants for Pollinators & Basic Insects (Northeast) and Native Landscaping Resources. These will be available for interested guests.  
-Belding Contribution: Leslie moved, Dave seconded to make a donation of \$100 to come out of Restricted Funds to the Belding Wildlife Management Area of Vernon for Jane Seymour's presentation.
  - b. Status of Markers: Dave reported that the vendor may have done these by mid-June.
  - c. Update on status of plaques spreadsheet: Helen is working on an excel spreadsheet to be done by this summer's work party. Helen will also meet with Warren Church about the possibility of having a plaque made for Cathy Smith.
8. New Business
  - a. Trees unattended: Incl. Larch, Dawn Redwood, and others by the barn and pavilion: these tend not to get mulched during work parties because of their location. Dave noted that this will be addressed at the next work party. The town will also have a new dump truck that can carry more mulch at a time.

- b. Plan for managing the Park Kiosk: Dave suggested that the Kiosk can be shared by the Arboretum with items on the left side and the Recreation Commission's announcements on the right side.
  - c. Grant from SustainableCT for pollinator bed. Dave moved and Leslie seconded to pursue a grant for developing a pollinator bed in front of the Town Hall. So moved.
  - d. Arboretum sign on Brian Cohen's wood structure. Helen will ask the First Selectman for permission to hang a sign with the Arboretum's logo on this structure. Gagnon Sign in Danielson will be consulted about this.
  - e. Summer Work Party: TBD
  - f. Plan for the pine grove on Rt. 198: The goal for the fall is to do some planting for a pollinator bed. Helen suggested planning this in phases, so it involves many different species. She will follow up with other resource people for ideas, such as from UCONN. Dave will work on laying out the parcel to include walkways. He thought this might be ready in about a month.
  - g. Amy Kallisher has completed the update of the Arboretum Map. Dave moved to acknowledge her work by the Commission sending her \$200. Leslie seconded. So, moved. Leslie will send her a thank you note.
9. Correspondence: None
10. Next Regular Meeting is on July 22, 2025
- Include on the agenda a discussion about an outreach plan for Volunteers.
11. Meeting adjourned at 4:18 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Ricklin, Secretary