

Chaplin Senior Center

Board of Directors

132 Chaplin Street

Chaplin, CT 06235

The Board of Directors for the Chaplin Senior Center met for a regular meeting on Tuesday, **March 1, 2022**, in the craft room of the Senior Center.

Members present: Chairperson Irene Schein, Shirley Rakos, Ann Lewis, Jeanette Haines, Catherine Dietrichsen, Ellen Gillon, Crystal Gebhardt, Carl Linkkila; alternates Dawn Gilbert, Robin Hoagland, and Janice Godaire, Director Lisa Kegler, and Victoria Northrop (recording clerk).

- 1. Irene Schein called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.** Alternate Janice Godaire was seated for Walt Zlotnick.
- 2. Additions or Changes to the Agenda:** Irene added a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 1, 2022 and the special meeting of February 15, 2022. Ann Lewis moved to accept both sets of minutes, which was then seconded by Jeanette and approved by the Board.

Jeanette Haines added the topic of a request by Helen Weingart on behalf of the ~~Bicentennial~~ Arboretum Committee as to whether the Senior Center would like to donate an additional bench to Garrison Park (for approximately \$800). Irene stated that since the Center needs a new shed roof, interior painting and other things, she isn't sure we're in financial shape to do so at this point. Carl offered to assist with maintenance of the existing two donated benches at the park by removing the memorial plaques from the benches for cleaning (by John Bolduk). He also stated that the current benches could use a new stain coat. The Board decided to gather information on exact costs and alternatives. Jeanette will ask Helen and the Bicentennial committee for a written proposal for the Senior Center Board.

Jeanette also says that the Library Board would like to talk about the idea of hiring the Windham Concert Band for a 90 minute performance of classic band music (Sousa/Independence Day patriotic songs) in July/August. The Library and Senior Center would split the cost of \$600. The concert would probably take place at Garrison Park and require 60 chairs and a power supply to be provided by the Senior Center/Library. The Board suggests the use of a donation bucket to help defray the \$300 cost to the Center and Irene thinks inviting food trucks might help bring in a larger and wider audience. Carl stated that he thinks the concert is a better outlay for the Center than an additional bench. Ann moved to support the concert with the Library, Jeanette seconded it and the motion carried unanimously. The date is to be decided and the Bicentennial Committee will likely be the ultimate organizer of it.

3. Audience for Citizens: Cesar Beltran was present to listen to the proceedings.

4. Director's Report:

Correspondence: Lisa received an estimate from APR Roofing for the shed of \$2149. It would include partial new decking and a drip edge. The HDC has approved the re-roofing as long as it is in similar materials. Victoria offered to put Lisa in touch with MJT roofing which may charge less. The Center's custodian also wrote to Lisa with an estimate for deep cleaning should the Center decide to do so, totaling \$2850, including \$1400 for stripping and refinishing the floors in the dining room and craft room, \$500 for carpet cleaning and the remainder for grout and tile cleaning in the bathroom and kitchen. The Board thinks that this deep cleaning can be postponed at least until after the painting is done, due to lower traffic in the center due to the pandemic.

Lisa received a call from the Quintana family donating 100 lunches, in honor of the senior Quintanas' 100th birthday in April, and will also donate lunches in October to celebrate their 75th wedding anniversary.

Cash on hand: \$349.53

Special revenue account: \$26,794.67

Membership status: 356

Dues collection: \$1,720.00

- 5. Activities and Other Outreach:** Unfortunately the new watercolor painting instructor will no longer be able to teach the course due to a family crisis. Crystal suggested that Lisa might consider her mother to teach. Indoor dining has resumed, with masks now optional. Two COVID vaccine clinics are planned (pediatric at the Library, adult at the Senior Center) for March 9th from 2-6 pm and again on the 30th. The Fit & Fun exercise class has been doing very well and is popular, as are the haircuts, massages, and pickleball. The Fisherman's Breakfast is on for April 9th from 6:30-8:30 am, curbside only, and costs \$6. There are enough volunteers for it. Lisa needs volunteers for the plant sale on May 7th (Ann Lewis volunteered). Trips will resume now and 9 different day trips are planned through the Columbia Senior Center. The memoir group may create a bound book to sell for the Bicentennial. Sue Krodel may be able to help with the binding process.
- 6. Budget Update:** Lisa gave a budget update detailing how the Center is faring on budget with 4 months to go in its fiscal year. She says that the budgets for the custodian, postage, telephone, office supplies and electricity should be O.K. The maintenance budget will be tight but will be fine as long as nothing major goes wrong. Cable and internet budget is tight, and Propane for the heat and stove is very tight (1800 last month. Out of the \$9800 budget line, 2377.62 remain).

7. **Interior Painting:** Lisa presented the Board with a sheaf of color chips for the Board to choose the new paint color(s) from. After some discussion it was settled that the shades would likely be Heron Plume for the walls and City Loft for the trim. Irene, Ellen, and Catherine volunteered to be on the painting committee. People will help move furniture away from the walls as much as they can, but may call in DPW for heavy things.
8. **Exercise equipment:** while there is some demand for a designated area for exercise equipment in the Center, at this point there is not really space for it, so the Board decided to hold off any decision on this for the time being. Potentially the lounge could become an exercise room in the future. Alternatives were mentioned, such as the brand new Senior Center being built in Windham/Willimantic.
9. **COVID-related:** The mask mandate has been eased, dining-in has resumed. ~~The kitchen cannot do both dine-in and take-out.~~ There are still tests and masks available for people who want them.

Next Meeting Date: April 5, 2022 @ 10 a.m.

10. **Adjournment:** the meeting was adjourned at 11:21 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Victoria Northrop, recording clerk