

**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, **October 7, 2025**, in the Senior Center craft room.

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

- 1. Irene Schein called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.**
- 2. Additions to the Agenda:** none
- 3. Audience for Citizens:** None present.
- 4. Minutes:** The minutes of the Board Meeting of September 2, 2025 were approved, after a motion was initiated by Janice and seconded by Ellen.
- 5. Old Business**

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

- a. Special Revenue Fund: \$44,372.45
- b. Cash on Hand: \$460.53
- c. Membership: 422
- d. Dues for 2025 thus far: \$1890 + any that have come in since 9/2/25
- e. Correspondence: None

Lisa gave the Board a detailed breakdown of the Center's use and activities for September 2025

- There were 856 individual visits to the Center in September.
- 433 lunches were served.

The detailed breakdown included the number of participants in all twelve of the Center's regular activities, the most popular being: 123 people doing "Fit and Fun", 54 in the breakfast club, and 79 playing Mahjonn. There were many other small, well attended activities ranging from pickleball (43) to bingo (42). The new band practice activity drew 19 participants. Special activities ranged from karaoke and music to light therapy and cellphone help.

An upcoming, major outing will take place in October: a bus trip to the Quabbin Reservoir, followed by lunch at the Salem Cross Inn. 55 Seniors (full capacity for the bus) have signed up for the trip. The cost per person is \$20, with the remaining expense coming from the Special Revenue Fund (total cost: \$2158.20, minus \$1100 from the participants' contribution).

There will be a flu shot clinic at the Center. The Seniors are collecting Halloween candy to donate to the town's Trunk-or-Treat at the end of the month. Light therapy sessions will continue and are popular. Lisa informed the Board that pickleball sessions will be on hold for the latter part of November due to early voting taking place in the Community Room.

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

- This month an "art market" is hanging, featuring works of various artists that people would like to offer for sale.
- For Nov-Dec: a collective show will take place once again of the artists who displayed their work over the course of previous years.
- Jane Collins has been added as a member of the Art Committee.
- Artists are booked until March 2026 thus far
- Victoria will contact Bruce Raymond to potentially exhibit in April.
- The art committee will check if it is feasible for the Nov-Dec. exhibition to be open to the public for any portion of the 2025 Artists Open Studio dates (November 28, 29, 30, December 6 and 7 - 10:00am - 5pm)

Lisa let the art committee know that she has too many other responsibilities to continue to be the main point of contact for the artists and asked that the committee take over the primary responsibility for getting the artists' bios to her for the newsletter and ensuring that the artists are prepared in advance to hang their works using our specific system (i.e. they are framed and wired). Victoria agreed to update the guidelines specifically to arrange the primary point of contact with the artists to be an art committee member, rather than the Director. She also will update the guidelines to reflect that artworks must be hanging-ready at the time the exhibition is to be put into place. Victoria also updated the legal waiver to be non-year specific.

**5c. Chorus Update:** Ellen will continue with her karaoke sessions once a month at lunchtime. The participants seem to enjoy it.

**5d. Facility Update:** Lisa informed the Board that the Health Inspector had come to the Center and had made a few recommendations, some of which have already been enacted:

- ½ & ½ has been put in a special cooler.
- A sign has been added in the lavatory specifying that employees wash hands before returning to work
- There is a need to obtain a "blanket" permit for any outdoor grilling and the need to add an overhead cover to the grilling area (Lisa is looking into the cost of either a retractable

awning or a more permanent metal shed roof. She's spoken with the HDC/zoning and the BOS on the topic). She has obtained a portable handwashing station for the grill area as per the recommendations of the Health Inspector. Lisa and Bob Grindle will go over the menu to determine grilling dates which might require inclusion in the blanket permit. Lisa will come back to the Board next month with prices for awning/roof solutions so the Board may approve the expense from the Special Revenue Fund.

## **6. New Business**

**6a. Discussion of priorities for use of the Special Revenue Fund:** The Board suggested the new grilling area roof/awning be prioritized, and more trips for the Seniors, including a holiday trip in December.

**7. Suggestions for Next Regular Meeting:** approval of expense for a grilling area roof/awning.

**8. Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting is November 4, 2025 @ 10 a.m.

**9. Adjournment:** the meeting was adjourned at 10:35

Minutes submitted by Victoria Northrop, recording clerk