

Chaplin Community and Economic Development Commission
Minutes of Meeting of May 12, 2021
Meeting via video conference call

CALL TO ORDER: Irene Schein called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm.

APPOINT TEMPORARY RECORDING SECRETARY: Ann Lewis was appointed temporary recording secretary.

MEMBERS PRESENT, OTHERS PRESENT: Irene Schein (chair), Leslie Ricklin, Amy Kalisher, Ann Chuk, Ann Lewis.

ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: Ms. Schein brought up the topic of recycling and new information on recycling that the commission could disseminate to the town. It was decided that the Chaplin What's In, What's Out flyer produced by Ginny Walton, resident and recycling professional, would be re-posted on Facebook. It was decided that Ms. Schein will check the Mansfield Facebook page and website for new information, and possibly speak with Ms. Walton and contact Willimantic Waste.

AUDIENCE FOR CITIZENS: None.

APPROVE DRAFT MINUTES OF APRIL 14, 2021: Ms. Chuk made a motion to approve the minutes of the 4/14/21 meeting. Ms. Lewis seconded. No discussion. All were in favor, none opposed with one abstaining.

ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTER UPDATE: A venue is needed for the planned art show. Videos are being worked on. When pandemic restrictions about public gatherings ease, it will be easier to make plans for this.

REVIEW ASSET MAPS: Ms. Schein will work on the asset maps. It may help to get a list of businesses from the town.

PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT, AND OTHER ACTIVITIES OF PZC: A report from Ms. Siege stated that the PZC is reviewing regulations and changing

and updating the Plan of Conservation and Development. Ms. Schein is working on contributing to this Plan about the issue of senior housing.

UPDATE ON SENIOR HOUSING AND AGING IN PLACE DISCUSSION GROUP: it was suggested that the Discussion Group could possibly meet outside at the new Senior Center outdoor activity space and perhaps piggy back onto a senior take-out lunch day.

BICENTENNIAL UPDATE: Ms. Ricklin reported on the progress being made by the Bicentennial Committee including planning walks and talks. The schools have declined at this time to do a bicentennial activity.

UPDATE ON POLLINATOR PATHWAYS INITIATIVE: Ms. Ricklin reported on the Pollinator Pathways Initiative activities including identifying a public space for a pollinator garden, distributing seed packets to Chaplin students, meeting with local naturalist, and creating a three town map of pollinator gardens.

UPDATE SUSTAINABLE CT: The chair has been unable to reach Torin Radicioni, our Sustainable CT liaison, by email and will try to contact another representative.

OTHER BUSINESS: Ms. Ricklin brought up the issue that the Chaplin tax base is decreasing. Our taxes will increase unless we reduce expenditures (difficult due to mandates) or bring in new businesses. She suggested that this Commission should play a role in this process. It was agreed that we need to learn more about this issue. It will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING IS JUNE 9, 2021 AT 6:30 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Lewis