

CHAPLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY
Board of Trustees Meeting
Chaplin, Connecticut
Meeting Minutes
October 16, 2017

Chairperson Victor Boomer called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Board members present were Alan Burdick, Eunice Edelman, Rebecca Stockdale-Woolley, Priscilla Diwan, Leslie Ricklin and Kelly Pothier. Others present was Library Director Sandra Horning. Unable to attend was Board member Bill Jenkins.

3. APPROVE MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 18, 2017:

Motion to approve the special meeting minutes of September 18, 2017, was made by Leslie Ricklin, seconded by Alan Burdick and carried with one abstention by Kelly Pothier.

4. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: None

5. CORRESPONDENCE: None

6. REPORTS:

A. Director's Report:

- Circulation for the month of September was 1,152 with 58 electronics.
- The Library was open for 17 days with 382 walk-ins at an average of 22 per day.
- The budget has not been frozen to date.
- Sue Gluck recommended cutting cleaning services to every other week due to budget constraints.
- The Library will be open Saturday, November 5th from 9-2pm for the Senior Center Harvest Bazaar. Tables will be setup with books for sale. Leslie Ricklin will help during this event.
- The 1st Cookbook Club went well with 10 people in attendance. The next meeting will be held on November 6th with group making recipes.
- The PreK playgroup is going well.
- A book will be chosen for the Quiet Corner Read. Any recommendations of up and coming authors are appreciated. Priscilla Diwan suggested using local authors displayed at the Co-op.
- The cost for E-Readers ranges from \$80 - \$250 (Ann Chuk suggested the Library purchase E-Readers at the last meeting). Priscilla Diwan suggested media safety awareness be offered to children. Leslie Ricklin suggested a questionnaire for patrons to gauge interest in E-Readers.
- The Holocaust exhibit has been postponed due to the need for repair. Eunice Edelman reported that a boat that helped rescue Jews from Denmark came to New London.
- A Gingerbread Party will be held in December.
- The First Selectman came to the Senior Center to lock a door that was left open (it couldn't be locked). The building will be rekeyed.
- The email for the Library Director is LibraryDirector@ct.org.

B. Board Chair Report: No Report

C. Board Members Report:

Leslie Ricklin and Priscilla Diwan presented the following ideas they presented to the Board of Selectman:

- Recommended keeping all small jobs in town with local workers.
- Recommended turning the William Ross Library into a Youth Center.
- Expressed concerns with moving the old Town Hall and Library without discussion with the community.
- Recycle and repurpose goods from the Transfer Station.
- Establish a Repair Café.
- Cots for the Library if used as an emergency shelter.

Leslie Ricklin expressed concerns with the lack of communication and will continue to attend the Board of Selectmen meetings.

7. OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:

A. Discussing landscaping issues:

The Board was presented with a landscaping sketch from Public Works Director Dave Stone that includes ideas from a professional landscaper. Plants have been purchased including a red maple, rhododendrons and shrubs similar to those at the Senior Center. The soil will be dug up and removed (it is highly toxic) and replaced with fresh soil and mulch from removal of town trees. Work will begin later this week.

B. Discuss Bicentennial:

Priscilla Diwan and Leslie Ricklin suggested establishing a Bicentennial Garden at the Library with old fashioned flowers, herbs and old English garden paths. The project could follow up with Sturbridge Village and start up in the spring. Seeds could be sold at a Book Sale. This could be a project for the Garden Club started by Helen Weingart. Kelly Pothier suggested involving children in the project including: Girl/Boy Scouts, 4-H Club and Chaplin Elementary teacher Donna Dufresne. Victor Boomer was commended for his work on photos presented from the town of Chaplin that were scanned for display in the Library. The pictures included: The Benjamin Chaplin home, Old Post Office/Burdick Store, The Old Town Hall and The Lincoln Store. The photos will be enlarged and rotated with a projector on the wall. Alan Burdick suggested showcasing a map of 1859, one map from before and one map from now with the names of residents.

C. Discuss Library Board Policy Manual:

Leslie Ricklin presented a document with the Policies of the Board of Trustees. Priscilla Diwan presented concerns with amendments by the ALA regarding the Freedom to Read that was approved in 1953. She suggested continued discussion on sustaining civilization with the changes to society before considering approval of the Policies document.

Motion for tentative approval of outline document for the Board of Trustees that includes approved policies to date, was made by Victor Boomer, seconded by Eunice Edelman and carried with one abstention by Priscilla Diwan.

D. Discuss Website progress:

The website is still in progress with working links and pertinent information available.

E. Directional Sign:

The application for a directional sign was rejected due to placement and will be resubmitted.

F. Friends of the Library:

Victor Boomer commended those Board members who have chosen not to run for a seat on the Library Board for their contributions to the Library. He suggested they stay involved by becoming a member of the Friends of the Library.

8. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

- Discuss landscaping issues/Bicentennial Garden
- Discuss Bicentennial
- Discuss Library Board Policy Manual
- Discuss Website progress
- Directional Sign
- Friends of the Library

9. ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn (8:09 PM) was made by Leslie Ricklin, seconded by Alan Burdick and carried unanimously.

Minutes will be approved at the next regular meeting.

***Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Scott
Recording Clerk***