

CHAPLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY
Board of Trustees Meeting
Chaplin, Connecticut
Meeting Minutes
April 19, 2021

Chairperson Victor Boomer called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM. Board members present were Adele Swart, Diane Cox and Jeanette Haines. Also present was Library Director Sandra Horning. Unable to attend were Board members Leslie Ricklin and Bill Jenkins.

3. APPROVE MINUTES OF MARCH 15, 2021:

Motion to approve the minutes from March 15, 2021, was made by Adele Swart, seconded by Jeanette Haines and carried unanimously.

4. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: None

5. AUDIENCE FOR CITIZENS: None

6. CORRESPONDENCE: None

7. REPORTS:

A. Director's Report:

- There was a total of 249 people for March (includes 0 people curbside). The Library was open 18 days with an average of 14 people per day. Circulation was 918 with 449 items checked out and 81 electronic checkouts.
- There were 37 people that attended March virtual events (Tea Chat and Story Time).
- All the light bulbs will be replaced in the Library and Senior Center through an energy efficient program through the Town Hall that will help lower future electric bills.
- The electrician installed the Wi-Fi Extenders. One still needs to be hooked up to the network.
- T-Mobile has offered a free trial for a Wi-Fi Hotspot for Libraries to try out by lending out to gauge interest. The cost is \$29.95 month with unlimited data and can be shut off if lost or not returned (a new phone would be issued). It could be used at Garrison Park. Diane Cox suggested the town purchase one.
- The Horizon Wings presentation on Owls was held outdoors and well attended with over 70 people. It was a beautiful day with clusters of chairs setup for families and small groups. Another animal program is being planned for the summer.
- Upcoming events include:
 - ✓ The Cookbook Club will meet on April 26th at 6pm with the Food Explorers and recipes that include Chickpea Truffles.
 - ✓ The Senior Center Plant/Grinder Sale will be held on May 8th. A table will be setup outside (weather permitting) with Garden Books to check out from the Library.
 - ✓ Quiet Corner Reads will be held virtually on June 16th at 6::30pm with author Elizabeth Letts. The Library will have a virtual related event around the same time.

B. Members Report: None

C. Chair Report: None

8. OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:

A. Speaker Programs:

- It was suggested to coordinate a Master Gardener with the plant sale to talk about native gardening (John Lorusso from UCONN has expressed interest). Adele Swart would like to see a presentation on gardening and lawncare that includes: grub control, weed control and deer control. She also suggested the Library get a soil meter to lend out for soil testing. Diane Cox suggested having more outdoor programs when the weather is nice.
- The CT Author Trail has been cancelled for this year.

B. ACLB Self-Assessment:

Victor Boomer reported that the Library is doing everything already in the self-assessment. Adele Swart suggested postponing until next month for Leslie Ricklin to address her questions.

C. Discuss Progress in Reopening:

The Mahjong group (8-10 people) has been meeting on Fridays with everyone wearing masks and happy to be back. The Senior Center is doing Tai Chi on Tuesday mornings. There have been several calls to reserve the meeting room for meetings.

D. Discuss Progress of the Poet Laureate Sub-Committee:

Adele Swart reported that 5 poems were received and narrowed down to 3 semi-finalists, 2 of which were asked to submit a Chaplin based poem with a May deadline. A finalist will be chosen with a rubric that includes points for being a Chaplin resident. The Committee was pleased with the response and will bring a finalist to the Board for approval at the next meeting.

E. Discuss Updating the Library's By-Laws:

The Board reviewed the revisions to the By-Laws. The approval date for the Librarian Assistant position is missing (will follow up with Sue Krodel).

Motion to approve revised Chaplin Library Board of Trustees By-Laws pending verification of the approval date for the Assistant Librarian position, was made by Adele Swart, seconded by Diane Cox and carried unanimously.

F. Budget Update:

Victor Boomer reported that the BOF is working on the budget and moved The Annual Town Meeting to May 24th. The Public Hearing on the budget was moved to May 10th.

G. Landscaping: The landscaper will begin in May or June. There is new growth in the flower beds.

9. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

- Include all items from Item #8 on this agenda
- Library Director Performance Review (Executive Session)

10. ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn (7:10 PM) was made by Jeanette Haines, seconded by Diane Cox and carried unanimously.

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