

CHAPLIN AD-HOC BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE
Chaplin, Connecticut
Special Meeting Minutes
August 10, 2021

Chairperson Leslie Ricklin called the meeting to order at 4:08 PM. Present were members Warren Church, Dick Weingart, Julie Lindquist, Bob Grindle and First Selectman Bill Rose. Unable to attend was member Anne Sicilian.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 13, 2021:

Motion to approve the minutes from July 13, 2021, was made by Bob Grindle, seconded by Warren Church and carried with one abstention by First Selectman Bill Rose.

4. REPORT ON MEETING WITH BILL ROSE AND LESLIE RICKLIN ABOUT INVITING LT. GOV. BYSIEWICZ:

The Committee was presented with draft letter inviting Lt. Gov. Bysiewicz to the Bicentennial Opening Ceremony on September 10, 2022 at 2pm. Bill Rose suggested also inviting all local dignitaries including Chris Murphy, Joe Courtney, and Doug Dubitsky. Julie Lindquist suggested inviting dignitaries from the three towns that formed Chaplin (Windham, Hampton and Mansfield).

Bill Rose addressed questions from the last meeting:

- The drone purchased by the town cannot be used due to not being licensed or insured (the town employee who purchased the drone is responsible for obtaining the proper license and permits). An alternative would be to invite two members of the Fire Department who are licensed with their own drones to do the drone photo (Warren asked if they would be available for follow up to make photos to sell).
- Advertising Strategies can include the kiosk at Garrison Park, Googlegroups, and the bulletin board in the island of the Town Hall parking lot.
- A bid opening was held today for the new electronic sign where messages can be changed constantly.

5. REPORTS ON COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS CONTINUED FROM JUNE MEETING:

a. Dick Weingart – Procedure for paying for T-shirts, calendars, signs, etc.:

When using the credit card, Committee members should contact the Finance Manager or Administrative Assistant with the vendor on how to proceed. Some vendors are already established as tax-exempt including the company that mounted the founding documents and Danielson Surplus and others have different tax-exempt requirements (Bill). If you use town funds and sell for a profit, the funds go into the General Fund unless you establish a special revenue account (Bill). The current funds set aside in the CIP are not for making a profit. Dick Weingart will contact the auditor for the proper procedure.

b. Warren Church – Updates on the Play:

Director Sydney Dubitsky will begin working on the play in January. Warren Church will contact her regarding the need to make decisions now on casting, staging, costumes (the 150th Celebration had authentic costumes) and suggested script changes. The play should be advertised to solicit cast members and volunteers. Julie Lindquist suggested consulting with the Windham Textile Museum

and reaching out to students from Parish Hill. Bill Rose suggested reaching out to students from the Drama Club.

c. Bob Grindle – Update on Banners/Signs, date to begin posting signs:

Gagnon Signs in Dayville was recommended by Dave Stone (Bob will meet with them for a quote on pole signs) and Bill Rose provided information on signs from CCM (Bob will contact them). There is no need to purchase expensive signs with the addition of the new electronic sign. A large sign similar to the walks and talks poster made for the library would be great for the island bulletin board at the Town Hall. Dick Weingart suggested a large curved banner to promote the Bicentennial across the gable end of Town Hall that would catch people's attention going into Town Hall and people that use the park. Bill Rose suggested mounting American flags on every pole on Main Street similar to what other towns do for holidays. Julie Lindquist suggested hanging signs at businesses along Route 6 or on town owned property (would need to go through Zoning). The Economic Development Commission has already requested contacting the DOT regarding wooden welcome to Chaplin signs for main roads (Bill). Dick Weingart offered to help with these signs and can check on how to get one made through the technical school. Bill Rose suggested Gagnon Signs who has made similar signs for other towns (Bob will check).

d. Julie – discuss costs/sponsors – appoint a fundraising subcommittee:

Rusty Lanzit can't continue with the sponsors booklet but is available for consultation if needed. Julie Lindquist presented information on the project to date with the booklet of houses and sample ad sheet with sizes and costs that will be inserted into the center (need to decide the costs). Personal ads can also be done to represent patrons of the Bicentennial. Ads would also be solicited for the play program. A fundraising subcommittee was formed with Julie Lindquist, Bob Grindle, and Dick Weingart for financial support. Leslie Ricklin suggested reaching outside the Committee for additional help.

Bob Grindle left the meet at 5:10pm.

e. Leslie – Update about T-shirt prices, Calendar, inviting State Historian Walt Woodward to speak during the Bicentennial:

The Committee was presented with price list and colors for T-shirts from Danielson Surplus and a sample graphic of map with Chaplin streets for the front of the shirt. The costs are \$4.75 for one-sided and \$6.05 for two-sided. Danielson Surplus recommends selling for \$10, using only one color and starting with a quantity of 400. Dick Weingart was wearing T-shirt from the 175th Celebration with a Chaplin map on the front and stressed the importance of purchasing top quality shirts (Leslie took a picture and will take to Danielson Surplus). The Committee agreed on a two-sided T-shirt in Forest Green with small Bicentennial Arboretum tree on the front left (can split costs with Arboretum Committee) and a simple map similar to the one on the front of the 175th T-shirt for the back. Warren Church suggested using the T-shirts as gifts for the bands and dignitaries.

Discussion was held regarding a talk by State Historian Walt Woodward. Leslie Ricklin will contact him regarding a talk on a significant event in CT history that is related to Chaplin's history.

Leslie Ricklin presented Anne Sicilian's rules for the Poster Art Event (discussion postponed until the next meeting for Anne to be present).

6. PUBLICITY: BESIDES SIGNS, WHAT VENUES SHOULD WE START EXPLORING FOR PUBLICITY: RADIO, NEWSPAPER, TOWN WEBSITE, GOOGLEGROUPS, OTHER:

Warren Church suggested it is time to publicize the Bicentennial with an article in the Chronicle to get the word out for sponsors, cast for the play and volunteers (announcements can begin in September with Leslie making an announcement at the Poet Laurette Reception). Julie Lindquist suggested putting an article in the Senior Center Newsletter. Bill Rose suggested announcement at upcoming event at Garrison Park with leaflets to handout and list on Googlegroups that is usually picked up by the newspapers. Leslie Ricklin suggested making an announcement on the Wayne Norman show.

7. SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT AGENDA:

- Finalize Calendar
- Publicity
- Poster Art Event

8. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held on September 14, 2021 at 4pm.

9. MOTION TO ADJOURN:

The meeting adjourned at 5:45pm.

*Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Scott
Recording Clerk*