

CHAPLIN AD-HOC BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Chaplin, Connecticut

Meeting Minutes

September 14, 2021

Chairperson Leslie Ricklin called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM. Present were members Warren Church, Dick Weingart, Anne Sicilian, Julie Lindquist and Bob Grindle. Unable to attend was member First Selectman Bill Rose.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 10, 2021:

Motion to approve the meeting minutes from August 10, 2021, was made by Bob Grindle, seconded by Anne Sicilian and carried unanimously.

4. REPORTS ON COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS CONTINUED FROM AUGUST MEETING:

Leslie Ricklin changed Item #5a to - Authorize the Purchase of Calendars. Each member was asked to take 10 copies to sell (cost 3.50 each, sell for \$10 each). Calendars could be available for sale at the Town Hall, Library and Senior Center. Julie Lindquist expressed concerns with the Calendar getting damaged and suggested they be individually wrapped (could use Ziplock bags). Warren Church suggested taking orders for the Calendars. Bob Grindle will buy 10 calendars to sell and be responsible for their condition. Dick Weingart suggested the Committee consider spending needs for discussion at each meeting.

a. Authorize the Purchase of Calendars:

Motion for the Bicentennial Committee to authorize expenditure up to \$550 for the printing of Calendars, was made by Dick Weingart, seconded by Anne Sicilian and carried unanimously.

b. Discuss Anne's draft for a "Celebrate Chaplin" poster activity:

Anne Sicilian will spearhead a poster activity with recommended guidelines that celebrates some aspect of Chaplin to get more people involved including school children and the Senior Center (Anne will make an entry form). The posters would be displayed at the September 10th Celebration or around town if submitted early. Suggestions included: under a tent (Anne), the corner of the library designated for the Bicentennial (Warren), in the schools and Senior Center (Leslie). Warren Church suggested involving Parish Hill (Bob will contact the Art teacher). The Senior Center will do as a Senior activity. Leslie Ricklin suggested including photography and embroidery. Bob Grindle suggested including a quilt to auction off (done previously by a quilter from the Senior Center, will follow up with the Senior Center Director). Warren Church suggested quilter Kathy Smith. Julie Lindquist suggested reaching out to a Quilting Group with an ad in the Chronicle.

c. Bob Grindle - update on banners/signs, Date to begin posting signs?

Copies of the Bicentennial walks and talks poster was submitted for a quote. The company will do a mockup of the poster with a quote not yet received (it is a busy time of year with the local fairs). The 3ft x 5ft color poster would include the Bicentennial Logo and be displayed in the case in the Town Hall parking lot. Leslie Ricklin contacted the Art teacher at the elementary school to see if they could do a sign as well (the display case is two sided).

d. Julie – discuss costs/sponsors:

An email was received from Jan at the Chronicle who is interested in meeting to discuss a package regarding publicity to help with the Bicentennial. It would pay for itself with a more professional

approach for getting ads for the booklet and program for the play (Julie will setup a meeting). Tracy Hastings wrote an article in the Chronicle about the Bicentennial and there is a class of 2022 UCONN student who is working as an intern at the Chronicle that is very excited about the Bicentennial (Julie suggested working with both to get the publicity that is needed). The booklet that the Committee was going to solicit businesses for ads are being given away without ads for free in the library and by Rusty Lanzit to promote the Walktober events (Julie will contact Rusty regarding the booklets). Dick Weingart expressed concerns with raising funds when there is town funding for the Bicentennial (don't need to incur printing costs for the booklet and asked if the booklet is appropriate to the Bicentennial Celebration). The Committee needs to identify what funds would be needed for. So far, there is the Calendar, program for the play, t-shirts and fireworks (\$20,000) and expenses for the big Saturday event (\$25,000 left to work with after the fireworks). Warren Church commented that going to the business community gets them involved as part of the publicity campaign. Dick Weingart suggested the focus be on advertising for the play and a program for the September 10th Celebration. Bob Grindle is pleased that the town is willing to fund the Bicentennial. The discussion was tabled and will finalize at the next meeting.

e. Leslie – T-shirt discussion, Calendar, show the finished Calendar (determine price and sales strategies):

Checks for purchases should be made out to Town of Chaplin with “Bicentennial” in the memo line.

f. Warren Church – updates on the play: Nothing new to report

g. Publicity – Besides signs, what venues should we start exploring for publicity – Radio, newspaper, town website, Googlegroups, other and Timeline for this:

Leslie Ricklin and Warren Church will talk to Wayne Norman to get the word out on the Bicentennial. A meeting will be held with Tracy Hastings for an article promoting the Bicentennial. Leslie Ricklin suggested advertising the Calendar and Poster event on Googlegroups. Anne Sicilian suggested advertising on the Economic Commission Facebook Page and the Rec Commission Facebook page. Warren Church suggested advertising on the Chaplin Neighborhood Watch and I Was Brought up in Chaplin Facebook page and will draft a notice to promote the Bicentennial.

Warren Church reported that the Trust is getting Tower Hill property and hopes to clear a trail for the Walks & Talks. He is also thinking of doing a talk on Chaplin Roads with the origin of their names.

5. SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT AGENDA:

- Finalize Rusty Lanzit booklet
- Garden/Farm Tour
- Treasurer’s Report
 - Forward Planning for Authorized Expenditures
 - Budget (Dick will develop a list of activities with projected costs)
- Parade (there is outside interest to organize)

6. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: October 12, 2021

Motion to adjourn (5:42 PM) was made by Anne Sicilian, seconded by Dick Weingart and carried unanimously.

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