

CHAPLIN AD-HOC BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Chaplin, Connecticut

Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2022

Chairperson Leslie Ricklin called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM. Present were members Warren Church, Dick Weingart, Bob Grindle, Ann Lewis and Bill Rose. Others present was First Selectman Juan Roman. Unable to attend were members Julie Lindquist and Anne Sicilian.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2022:

Motion to approve the special meeting minutes from September 6, 2022, was made by Dick Weingart, seconded by Bob Grindle and carried unanimously.

4. AUDIENCE FOR CITIZENS: None

5. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: Add John Meyer's Video to Item #6b – Reflections about the Celebration.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

a. Financial Report Update:

New update from the report sent out to the Committee - \$2,300 invoice posted today for portable restrooms and associated costs leaving a balance of \$1,200 in the Bicentennial Account. \$30,984 in expenses charged up to Sept. 10th (doesn't include State Police, Sheet Music for Babcock Band and contribution to Parish Hill for the drone). The Bicentennial Account includes profits from T-shirts, Calendars, Sponsorships plus \$20,000 from the town (\$5,000 transferred to start the process and \$15,000 transferred the end of the last fiscal year). An additional \$25,000 is set aside in the CIP.

- Juan Roman asked if the DPW can be reimbursed for overtime for the Bicentennial (Dick will provide details with costs for the Committee to approve at the next meeting).
- Ann Lewis is interested in knowing the cost to put on the celebration (\$31,184 with approximately \$11,000 raised by the Committee).

b. Reflections about the Celebration on Sept. 10:

Video - John Meyer created a great video that was posted on Facebook and included drone footage, the bands and background music. This is the only video (Parish Hill not able to create one) and doesn't include much from the dignitaries (possibly someone from the community has footage that could be added in).

Reflections - the celebration was great with everyone having a good time (received many positive comments in person and on Facebook), the sound from the opposite side of the field faded out during speaking by the dignitaries (was good otherwise), the Ukulele Band was very entertaining, some vendors complained about their location (no one knew they were there – consider rearranging for future events), food vendors did extremely well and willing to come to Chaplin anytime, high energy for the day with people remaining in the districts long after the drone photo to talk and a lot of people staying for the whole day, great to have the tent from the Library/Senior Center there (crowded all day), the Committee worked great together with many ideas (especially the tent), tremendous support from different groups including the Library and Senior Center who ran back and forth for needed items, medical equipment on hand for one incident.

- Ann Lewis asked about the Rec Department planning fireworks for every year (CIP Plan plans to set aside \$10,000 each year for a Chaplin Day - not enough for Fireworks).
- Warren Church asked about the drone photo that should be available to the community (sent to the Town Hall – Leslie will check on).

- Leslie Ricklin commended Bill Rose and Joe Pinto for the great job on the parade with amazing floats, fire trucks, and great music including a marching band and Drum & Fife Corp.

c. Organization of Photographs Taken by Peter:

Warren Church has a thumb drive with photos taken by Peter Polomsky including the play (Ann suggested making a slide show). Bill Rose suggested the photos can be uploaded and stored in the cloud with a link on the website and Google Groups (Peter Polomsky shared photos on his Facebook page – link on Bicentennial Facebook page). Warren Church suggested labeling the individual images to know who they are (Warren and Leslie will work on).

d. Publicity for Upcoming Bicentennial Events:

Upcoming events will be posted on Facebook, Google Groups, the Electronic Sign and includes: Two Sisters Hike on October 15th, Cathy Smith and Bruce Raymond Talk on Fiber Arts with Photos, Jean Givens Walk, Rattlesnake Mountain Hike in November, Poetry Reading by Adelaide Northrup at Tree Lighting at the Fire Department.

e. Other:

Leslie Ricklin reported there are about 60-70 T-shirts leftover (will be available for sale at the Town Hall, Library, Senior Center, Schools – check with Linda Caron).

- Bob Grindle commended Linda Caron for the phenomenal job she did with the kids that brought in a lot of people including parents and grandparents.
- Juan Roman commended Darcy Rose on her Sawing Demonstration that drew a good crowd and was documented in the video.

f. Items for Next Agenda:

The next meeting will be held on November 8, 2022.

7. ADJOURN: *Motion to adjourn (5:00 PM) made by Bob Grindle, seconded by Bill Rose.*

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