

CHAPLIN AD-HOC BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE
Chaplin, Connecticut
Meeting Minutes
June 10, 2020

Chairperson Leslie Ricklin called the remote meeting to order at 1:00 PM. Members present were Dick Weingart, Warren Church, Bob Grindle, Anne Sicilian, Dave Shenker, Kayse Pellegrino and First Selectman Bill Rose. Others present was Sandra Horning.

3. **AUDIENCE FOR CITIZENS:** None

4. **APPROVE MINUTES OF APRIL 22, 2020:**

Motion to approve the meeting minutes from April 22, 2020, was made by Bob Grindle, seconded by Dave Shenker and carried unanimously.

5. **ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:**

Motion to add to agenda after Item #6c, First Town Meeting Play, was made by Warren Church, seconded by Anne Sicilian and carried unanimously.

Motion to add to agenda after Item #6c, Historic Home or Garden Tours, was made by Kasey Pellegrino, seconded by Bill Rose and carried unanimously.

6. **ACTION ITEMS:**

a. **Announcement of the new logo to the town:**

Bill Rose presented letterhead with the new town logo that was approved by the Board of Selectmen and will be presented in the next issue of the Town Newsletter.

b. **Discussion: creating a position for a Town Historian:**

Leslie Ricklin contacted Bev York from Windham regarding a Town Historian and received a copy of the State of CT Bill for appointing a Town Historian that was passed in 1987. A Town Historian keeps track of and reports about various town activities not listed elsewhere. The person does not need to be a town resident. The Committee can make recommendations to the Board of Selectmen who appoints the volunteer position. Anne Sicilian suggested setting up a Facebook page and will follow up on. Warren Church suggested posting information to the town website to peak interest. Bob Grindle suggested posting stories and photos on the town website and suggested setting up a Bicentennial Blog that he will follow up on for the next meeting. Suggestions for people who might be interested include: Rick Nichols and Rick Nickalucas.

c. **Update on the Bicentennial Arboretum – launch of the fundraising stage:**

Thanks to the Board of Selectmen for launching the fundraising stage for the Bicentennial Arboretum. Thanks to Helen Weingart for all her work on this project. A flyer with design layout at Garrison Park (designed by Amy Halisher) will be included with the tax bills. The project will be overseen by Town Arborist Dave Stone with the first stage to begin this fall with 25 trees planted. A special account was setup for donations that will be matched through Sustainable CT. Volunteers are needed for this project. Anne Sicilian would like to see kids involved and also suggested a memorial plaque with a tree as a fundraiser. Kayse Pellegrino suggested planting native town saplings (she has a baby sycamore) donated by town residents.

First Town Meeting Play:

Warren Church suggested doing a play of the First Town Meeting and has a draft copy of the play from the 150th anniversary celebration. Bill Jenkins reached out regarding the play (his mother Sophie was in the play in 1972) and is looking to see if he has any old costumes. Dave Shenker suggested contacting the Windham Theater Guild for help and will follow up with a member he knows.

Historic House or Garden Tours:

Kayse Pellegrino suggested having Historic House or Garden Tours and would be interested in hosting a tour of her historic home and property. Warren Church suggested contacting Jean Givens who has conducted walking tours in the past. Kayse Pellegrino will follow up with Jean Givens and suggested reaching out to people in the community for interest. Warren Church suggested sending out a survey to residents for participation in the activities and finalize a plan in the fall.

d. Other Reports:

Kayse Pellegrino along with her husband offered their high quality drone with video footage for virtual tours of the Bicentennial activities. Anne Sicilian suggested a virtual tour down the river. Bill Rose suggested tubing down the river as an activity for the celebration. Helen Weingart is looking into an overhead photograph of all town residents standing in their sector of a map of the town outlined at Garrison Park. Kayse Pellegrino will bring an overhead photo of Garrison Park with the drone for review and suggested an activity of old time lawn games. Warren Church suggested a Scavenger Hunt with teams consisting of a child, a teenager, an adult and a senior citizen.

e. In What Direction are we Going:

Discussion was held regarding fundraising and sponsors. Leslie Ricklin suggested contacting the school PTO for fundraising. Warren Church will follow up with Linda Caron from Chaplin Elementary who is active in the town 5k race and the Boy Scouts. Kayse Pellegrino suggested a calendar with town photos for a fundraiser. Leslie Ricklin will follow up with Victor Boomer whose work is on display in the Library. Warren Church suggested thinking about sponsors when dealing with expenses. Bill Rose suggested the Windham Theater Guild for help with sponsors.

f. Second Audience for Citizens: None

g. Suggestions for next agenda:

- New Developments
- Update on Blog

h. Date for next meeting:

The next meeting will be held in person on Wednesday, August 5th at 1:00 PM.

i. Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn (2:01 PM) was made by Anne Sicilian, seconded by Bob Grindle and carried unanimously.

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