

# MINUTES: CHAPLIN ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

## Regular Meeting: June 14, 2023 @ Town Hall

1. Meeting called to order by Chair Schein at 6:35pm
2. Slowik assigned as temporary recording secretary
3. Members present: Schein, Pogmore, J. Roman, L. Roman, Slowik, Rose
4. Changes to Agenda: Minutes were of March 8<sup>th</sup>, not of April 12<sup>th</sup> as was listed
5. No Audience Present
6. Minutes were approved by all. Motion by Rose, Second by Pogmore
7. Old Business
  - a. J. Roman > **Ordinance for a commission to run the arboretum.** Board consists of Ellen(), Dave(), & Leslie.
    - **Museum update** > Letter to move being drafted. Building is not registered as a historic location; will reapply for designation when moved. Move was approved by Planning and Zoning (A24). Estimated cost to move is \$125k all included for move, updated standalone building. Previously allocated \$35k still available. Possibility of documenting the move through photo and video to showcase the history of it and have on display when moved.
    - **NECOGG** > \$1.5mil for shovel ready connectivity/accessibility projects; Historic district, parking accessibility, sidewalk, old post office, ADA compliance needed at Town Hall, potential renovation of concession stand, rec park bathrooms & parking.
  - b. **Rt 6 Rumble Strips** > Handout was provided. Strips will be added through Rt 6 (from Windham to Brooklyn).
  - c. **Traffic Calming** > adding new speed signs. Once signs are up there will be strict speed enforcement through Chaplin. State claimed Chaplin did not request slowed speed limit when the road was updated. Point made that sidewalks encourage people to slow down.
  - d. **Energy Watch** > nothing available for energy reduction. Solar array was discussed, points made that it's not very effective based on panels installed at Senior/Community Center. EV Stations a possible future proposed update.

- e. **Community Center** > Point made it is not in the purview of the Econ. Dev. Commission. Needs to be addressed through Board of Selectmen. Buildings belong to the town.
- f. **Promo Video** > Overall positive consensus of the preliminary pitch video provided by Clint & Brandon Slowik. Further questions to consider for possible future marketing materials (brochures, videos, web, social media, etc): What is there to do in Chaplin? Look towards individual highlights of town assets and charms. Request for price point breakdowns. Recommendations made for focusing on horse camps, trails, existing events & programs that are already planned.
- g. **Meet & Greet** > Targeting local business owners of all sizes. Sponsored by Econ. Dev. Com. Will utilize part of the \$3k allocated to this commission to host ongoing Local business owner meet and greets and observe ROI. Focused as networking event with refreshments. Date of First "Business Owners Round Table" Meet and Greet settled as Thursday June 29<sup>th</sup> 8am to 9am at the Chaplin Community Center. Agenda to be simple with time for questions. Follow up date suggested: August 31<sup>st</sup> 2023.
- h. **Chaplin Artist's Day** > Will be incorporated as part of Chaplin Day this year. Looking to have Chaplin Businesses, including artists, may be involved free of charge. Looking to WILI for public announcement as well as on the Firehouse billboard and word of mouth. Schein to be in-between for artists and the Chaplin Rec. Department. Suggestion of Air BnB owners having a bulletin board at Chaplin Day to be looked into by L. Roman.

## 8. New Business

- a. Funding, Grants, Projects > Covered Earlier
- b. Upcoming Events
  - 1. Windham Concert Band @ Rec. Park 6/24
  - 2. Summer Concerts to be announced
  - 3. Chaplin Day Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> Discussed in 7.h.
  - 4. Agenda suggestions > Business Owners update, Eastern CT Tourism update, Meet & Greet review, Video & Marketing, Arts & Culture, upcoming events.

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JULY 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2023**

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:22PM**