

Chaplin Senior Center

Board of Directors

132 Chaplin Street

Chaplin, CT 06235

The Board of Directors for the Chaplin Senior Center met for its regular meeting on Tuesday, **November 1, 2022**, in the Senior Center craft room.

Members present: Chairperson Irene Schein, Crystal Gebhardt, Shirley Rakos, Ann Lewis, Jeanette Haines, Dawn Gilbert, and Ellen Gillon; alternates Robin Hoagland, Janice Godaire and Joyce St. Lawrence; Director Lisa Kegler, and Victoria Northrop (recording clerk).

- 1. Irene Schein called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.** Janice Godaire was seated for Walt Zlotnick and Joyce St. Lawrence was seated for Karl Linkkila.
- 2. Audience for Citizens:** None present.
- 3. Minutes:** The minutes of the Board Meeting of October 4, 2022 were approved unanimously after a motion was initiated by Ellen and seconded by Ann.
- 4. Additions and Changes to the Agenda:** Addition of discussion of the issues with the kitchen stove and oven were added under point 2b under New Business.
- 5. Old Business**

5a. Filling Board Vacancy: The vacancy in the Board created when Catherine Dietrichsen resigned was filled by Dawn Gilbert, and the alternate position she vacated was filled by Joyce St. Lawrence with the approval of the BoS.

5b. Art Committee Update: Victoria and Joyce measured the chosen walls and created an informal plan which was e-mailed to all the Board members. Lisa also had suggestions on where things should hang. Ann sent an e-mail to Board members with images of an installed system. The Board discussed next steps and walked around to view the chosen spaces. Pete Kegler volunteered to hang the first track in the space between the two bathroom doors in order to see how it looks and functions. The Board discussed the need for potential waivers or insurance to cover any expensive artwork being displayed. The Art Committee member clarified what they expected as their responsibilities, i.e. locating and selecting local artists, discussing the size and number of works to be exhibited, hanging said works and doing lighting. The Committee would make a selection with the artist's assistance and approve the works, avoiding potentially controversial pieces (i.e. highly political or explicit). Various Board members volunteered to contact other exhibition spaces for information and suggestions. Ann made a motion to carry out the initial track hanging and Ellen seconded it, and the motion then passed.

5c. Community Center Administration, Costs and Policy: Lisa passed out a sheet with the updated rules for the Community Center usage. She mentioned that the Senior Center currently covers all costs for heating/cooling/electricity, bathroom supplies and cleaning. Sandy Horning and Lisa discussed this outlay. They would like to bring this topic up to the Board of Selectmen to find out if the costs can be moved to the Community Center as a separate town entity or the Senior Center be reimbursed for the above costs, as said costs should not come from the Senior Center's budget. The Board suggested that separate meters be added for the Community Center. Crystal mentioned that parking may also be an issue if the Community Center is used more frequently because the seniors might be forced to walk from all the way across the lot if a function in the Comm. Center happens while the Senior Center is open. It was mentioned that the Comm. Center may also become the new polling place for the town, as the Firehouse finds it cumbersome to have things set up in their space for multiple days. Irene asked Lisa to go to the Board of Selectmen (not just to Juan Roman) to discuss how these costs can be defrayed.

5d. Director's Report:

a. Special Revenue Fund: \$33,879.87

b. Cash on Hand: \$477.24

c. Membership: 372

d. Dues collected: \$2430.50

e. Correspondence: Lisa said that she received two quotes from electricians on installation of the new outlets in the dining room. Both electricians agreed that placement on the wall with the coffee station would be best, filling to two available 20 amp circuits in the breaker box. The quotes were \$1450 and \$1200, including materials and labor. Crystal made a motion to go with the lower quote, especially since that electrician (Randy Godaire) has a good history with working with the Senior Center. Ellen seconded, and the motion passed with Janice Godaire abstaining.

Lisa stated that upcoming events include a country breakfast on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving from 8-9:30 a.m., dine-in. She requested volunteers. Robin agreed to help. There will be Medicare checkups on November 30th, and a musician is going to perform on November 21st. There was also a short discussion about Breakfast Club to make certain that the volunteers were not being overly burdened by adding in the expectation for the Center to provide something for the breakfasts.

5e. Update on Adult Daycare: the discussion will be postponed until next meeting.

6. New Business

6a. Lunch price changes: it was confirmed that no one had heard any negative feedback on the lunch price increase.

6b. Issues with the stove/oven in the kitchen: Lisa said they'd had another propane leak, which was fixed. There is still an issue with pilot lights when the power goes out, which happens fairly often, and requires Dave Stone to come out (at a potential cost of \$150 per visit) every time to reset the pilots. Lisa says it's time to cut losses and go electric. Bob Grindle, the chef, agreed that he could manage an electric stove. Lisa will contact the BoS to establish where the funds (\$4k-6k) for a new appliance would come from. Could the cost come from the Capital Improvement Fund, or from the town's Emergency Fund, as this is a potentially dangerous failure if it's having issues with gas leaks? Lisa also mentioned the propane leak sensor is overly sensitive and may require relocation, which would be an additional cost. After some further discussion, the Board recommends Lisa speak to Juan Roman.

7. Next Meeting Date: December 6, 2022 @ 10 a.m.

8. Adjournment: the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Victoria Northrop, recording clerk