

CHAPLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY
Board of Trustees Meeting
Chaplin, Connecticut
Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2022

Chairperson Victor Boomer called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Board members present were Diane Cox, Leslie Ricklin, Brian Cohen and Jeanette Haines. Others present were First Selectman Juan Roman, Town Clerk Shari Smith and Town Attorney Dennis O'Brien. Unable to attend was Board member Bill Jenkins and Library Director Sandra Horning.

3. APPROVE MINUTES OF JANUARY 24, 2022:

Motion to approve the meeting minutes from January 24, 2022, was made by Leslie Ricklin, seconded by Brian Cohen and carried unanimously.

4. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: None

5. AUDIENCE FOR CITIZENS: None

6. CORRESPONDENCE: None

7. REPORTS:

- a. **Director's Report:** No Report
- b. **Members Report:** No Report
- c. **Chair Report:** No Report

8. OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:

a. Speaker Programs:

A Bicentennial talk on Ben Chaplin's Will is scheduled for March 16th at the Senior Center.

b. Landscaping: No Report

c. Discuss Ordinance Change to Library Board of Trustees and Library Director:

Statute was passed in 2007 for change to Library Board of Trustees and Library Director.

d. Discuss ordinance for Library Board of Trustees – Alternates:

Discussion was held regarding alternates for the Library Board of Trustees including the following: there was an ordinance change from a 9 member Board to a 6 member Board that makes it easier to end up with a tie vote (not expected with a Library Board); alternates being considered due to past difficulties in having a quorum; state statute allows for alternates for land use boards and the Board of Finance; there is no statute that allows alternates on a Library Board (doesn't mean they are not allowed); may be difficult in finding people to serve; can have up to 3 alternates (one alternate would be all the library needs); alternates would be appointed by the Library Board or the Board of Selectmen; minority party representation with 3 alternates. The opinion from Town Attorney Dennis O'Brien is that the Library Board of Trustees can have alternates and recommends one alternate that would be up for election every 2 years (will draft an ordinance that would need to be voted on at the Town Meeting in May).

Motion to move forward with the alternate position with 1 alternate member every 2 years, was made by Brian Cohen, seconded by Leslie Ricklin and carried unanimously.

e. Discuss and act on Friends of the Library – Mission Statement:

The Friends of the Library asked the Library Board to approve their Mission Statement that was adopted at their February meeting.

Motion to approve the Mission Statement for the Friends of the Library, was made by Leslie Ricklin, seconded by Jeanette Haines and carried unanimously.

Diane Cox presented discussion from the Friends of the Library meeting on the following:

- Moving forward with a Book Delivery System for those who can't get out to the library (will reach out to them about their interests).
- Having a Book Sale on eBay rather than an in-person Book Sale.
- Reached out to the new owner of the old library to volunteer when the time comes with help cleaning out the attic (contains a lot of things including books).
- Possibility of starting up a Seed Library (similar things done at other libraries - Mansfield offers a Cookware Library).
- Possibility of a Town Newsletter or flyer that lists services available in town through the Library, Senior Center and Rec Commission.
- Organizing a field trip to New York City in mid-May to the JP Morgan Library or Brooklyn Museum (preference given to Book Chat members for first sign-up).
- The next meeting will be held on March 9th.

Leslie Ricklin presented information from the Windham Concert Band that is available for performances this summer (June-Aug) and would be great for the Bicentennial. The cost for the 50–60-piece band is \$600 and could be held under the tent at the Senior Center/Library. The First Selectmen suggested the pavilion at Garrison Park would have more room for a large band. The Senior Center Director and Library Director have both expressed interest in sharing the cost for this event.

Motion for the Library Board of Trustees to sponsor a possible concert by the Windham Concert Band this summer, was made by Diane Cox, seconded by Leslie Ricklin and carried unanimously.

9. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

- Items from this agenda
- Alternates Ordinance
- Friends of the Library Report

10. ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn (7:15 PM) was made by Jeanette Haines.

Minutes will be approved at the next regular meeting.

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