

CHAPLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY
Board of Trustees Meeting
Chaplin, Connecticut
Meeting Minutes
December 19, 2022

Chairperson Victor Boomer called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM. Board members present were Leslie Ricklin, Brian Cohen, Jeanette Haines and Alternate Adele Swart. Also present was Library Director Sandra Horning. Unable to attend were Board members Diane Cox and Bill Jenkins.

3. APPOINT ALTERNATE MEMBER: Alternate Adele Swart was seated for Board member Diane Cox.

4. APPROVE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 21, 2022:

Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes from November 21, 2022, made by Jeanette Haines, seconded by Leslie Ricklin and carried unanimously.

5. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: None

6. AUDIENCE FOR CITIZENS: None

7. CORRESPONDENCE: None

8. REPORTS:

a. Director's Report:

- There was a total of 424 people in-person for November. The library was open 15 days with an average of 28 people per day. There were 93 electronic checkouts. About 120 people attended in-person events including: Story Time, Book Chat and Bicentennial talk.
- The Solar company came to remove/reinstall panel to repair the roof and changed most of the ceiling tiles (tiles with lights will be replaced or painted at a later date).
- The Rec Commission (Dave Stone) has asked the library to accept lost frisbees that are found from the Disc Golf Sets (drafted a new policy) and is considering charging a reclaim fee that would be split between the Rec Commission and library. Leslie Ricklin asked if the Town Hall would be more convenient (the Town Hall closes early and is closed on Friday and Saturday – popular days for use).
- Jeanette Haines asked about the Bicentennial Bench from the library (Sandy will check on).
- Leslie Ricklin asked if any update about the heat (repairs are holding up – new system approved and will be installed in the spring).
- Invited by Dave Stone to the CIP meeting on January 12th (looking for input on items needed for the library). The Senior Center is requesting a new stove and insulating the Community Center. The new heating system will be funded with ARPA funds. Looking at redoing the parking lot including: changing the entrance and more parking (in the works).
- The next Book Chat will be held on January 13th at 3pm.
- The New Year's Crafts for Children will be held on December 31st at 11am.
- The library will be closed for the holidays on December 24th, December 26th, and January 2nd.
- Sandy will be on vacation December 23rd and from January 3rd to January 7th (Angie, Kitty and Victoria will cover).

b. Members Report:

The report on salary issue was presented to the Board of Selectmen at their last meeting (Jeanette met with the First Selectman previously to determine the process and was informed it needed to be submitted in writing and presented to the Board of Selectmen). The Board of Selectmen

should review when discussing salary increases and present with their proposed budget in February. Leslie Ricklin asked Chair Victor Boomer to follow up with the First Selectmen regarding any questions about the packet.

c. Chair Report:

The First Selectman was informed about citizens from other area towns that went to their Selectmen or Mayors regarding problems with The Book Challenge (sent him copies of the policy and forms – anyone with problems should be directed to the Library Director or Board of Trustees).

9. OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:

a. Speaker Programs:

Holocaust Remembrance Day with author Deborah Levison (released a new book based on a true story about her family) will be held on January 25th at 6:30 PM (snow date – February 1st). Adele Swart suggested she would be good for the Quiet Corner.

b. Budget Update:

Items are within budget (early in the season). Propane is expected to go over. Electricity is fine for now (will look at after rate increase). Cost savings are expected with the new heating system.

c. Discuss progress on the security camera: Not installed yet.

d. Friends of the Library Update:

- The next meeting will be held on December 21st at 2:30pm (all are welcome to attend).
- Thanks to Bruce Raymond for his donation of Doors of Chaplin posters (sold about 10).
- Refreshments similar to the Poet Laureate will be done for the speaker program on January 25th.
- A membership drive will be held with the Ridgeway Weaver Exhibit at the library (date TBD).
- Will be discussing use for their funds (Story Book Walk or new bench for out front – would like to do both).
- Sandy Horning attended the Ridgeway Exhibit and presented brochure (asked permission to use for the library's exhibit).

e. Discuss Ben Chaplin cupboard budget:

The Board of Finance discussed the cupboard and asked about the actual cost to get it restored. Leslie Ricklin suggested contacting Bill Rose who worked to get the cupboard moved from the old library to the restoration shop (Victor will follow up with Bill).

10. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

- Items from the current agenda
- The next meeting will be held on January 23rd.

Brian Cohen expressed concerns regarding attendance at the Board meetings.

11. ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn (7:20 PM) made by Adele Swart, seconded by Brian Cohen and carried unanimously.

Minutes will be approved at the next regular meeting.

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