

**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, **December 3, 2024**, in the Senior Center craft room.

Members present: Chairperson Irene Schein, Carl Linkkila, Robin Hoagland, Janice Godaire, Crystal Gebhardt, Ellen Gillon, Ann Lewis, and Shirley Rakos; alternates Joyce St. Lawrence and Victoria Northrop (also acting as recording clerk); Director Lisa Kegler.

- 1. Irene Schein called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.** Irene seated Joyce St. Lawrence for Dawn Gilbert.
- 2. Changes and Additions to the Agenda:** Shirley asked to discuss two additional holiday gifts for volunteers, which was added under new business. Irene struck from the agenda two topics which were resolved at prior meetings (multi-function room guidelines and comments on the town budget).
- 3. Audience for Citizens:** None.
- 4. Minutes:** The minutes of the Board Meeting of November 5, 2024 were approved after a motion was initiated by Ellen and seconded by Carl. The Board noted that Jacob Garrison's name was shortened to Jay in error.
- 5. Old Business**

**5a. Director's Report:**

- a. Special Revenue Fund: \$44,761.84
- b. Cash on Hand: \$178.27
- c. Membership: 408
- d. Any remaining dues collected will be applied to 2025
- e. Correspondence: None

Lisa gave the Board a detailed breakdown of the Center's use and activities for November.

- There were 805 individual visits to the Center in November
- 374 lunches were served

The detailed breakdown included the number of participants in all twelve of the Center's regular activities, the most popular being 114 doing "Fit and Fun" and 69 playing Mahjongg and 69 attending the Country Breakfast.

Activities for December include a "Deck the Halls" pizza party on December 5<sup>th</sup>, a wreath decorating party, a Christmas/holiday themed singalong on the 9<sup>th</sup>. The Friends of the Library will come in to assist seniors with bidding on their online charity auction as some were having issues. Lisa also announced a "Cat Café" which will take place in the library conference room (with kittens) to benefit a pet shelter.

### **5b. Art Committee Update**

- A collaborative show of previous exhibitors is currently showing for December for potential Christmas sales. The exhibit will be open December 7<sup>th</sup> for Artists' Open Studios 2024. Irene and Victoria will cover those hours of operation.
- Victoria will show her work in January
- Future potential artists going forward are:
  - Alice Kuzel (Victoria will try to contact her)
  - Bruce Raymond (photos)
  - Cathy Smith (fabric art)
  - Joyce will contact Ann Chuk for more potential artists

We would like to organize a Paint & Sip evening in January or February. Lisa thinks she has an instructor for the event.

**5c. Chorus Update:** A Christmas concert/singalong at the Chaplin Senior Center will happen on Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 12.30.

**5d. Facility Update:** Lisa says the main sewer line of the Center clogged again (it happened about 3 years ago. The plumber/repair was under \$400 and came from the maintenance fund. Rick Nichols was helpful in assisting with the unsanitary cleanup. Lisa also mentioned that the HVAC is working better now, but mice have destroyed the exterior mini-split units for the Community Room.

## **6. New Business**

### **a) Please see the Director's Report**

**b) Review Center By-laws and Special Revenue Fund Use:** The Board discussed the wording for the amendment to the by-laws as provided by Lisa, then made some small changes, which Lisa will insert. The Board formally gives notice that voting will take place at the next meeting (Feb. 2025) for said amendment to the by-laws, adding a section on the uses of the Special Revenue Fund. Ann made a motion for this action, Ellen seconded, and the Board unanimously approved. In February a vote

will take place to codify the amendment in the by-laws. Text of the proposed amendment: *“The Board of Directors encourages gifts to the Senior Center consistent with the Center’s mission and policies. Donations, dues, and funds raised by fundraisers are not to replace regularly budgeted expenditures. Private resources can extend and enrich Senior Center services and special projects.”*

- c) **Discuss and Act on Additional Holiday Gifts for Volunteers from the Special Revenue Fund:** Shirley wanted to discuss with the Board the addition of holiday gifts for two volunteers who consistently aid the Senior Center with no compensation, Neal Waite and Rick Nichols. After said discussion, the Board voted (Janice moved, Joyce seconded, unanimous pass) to give gift cards to each of these volunteers worth \$200 and to offer Rick Nichols lunches at the Center at no cost.

**7. Suggestions for Next Regular Meeting:** Follow up on the changes to By-Laws for the Special Revenue Fund, discuss Paint & Sip.

**8. Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting is February 4, 2025 @ 10 a.m.

**9. Adjournment:** the meeting was adjourned at 10:46

Minutes submitted by Victoria Northrop, recording clerk