

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, **March 4, 2025**, at 10 am in the Senior Center craft room.

Members present: Chairperson Irene Schein, vice chair Shirley Rakos, Dawn Gilbert, Robin Hoagland, Janice Godaire, Ellen Gillon, Ann Lewis (acting as recording secretary). Alternates present: Joyce St. Lawrence and Sally Ireland.

Members absent: Victoria Northrup, Carl Linkkila, Crystal Gebhardt

Also present: Director Lisa Kegler, Assistant Director, Lin Grindle and guest Leslie Ricklin.

1. **Irene Schein called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.** Irene seated Joyce St. Lawrence for Crystal Gebhardt and Sally Ireland for Carl Linkkila.
2. **Additions to the Agenda:** None
3. **Audience for Citizens:** Leslie Ricklin shared that she is now being trained as an AARP representative. She said that we have the opportunity to meet Chaplin legislative representatives at town hall Wednesday night at 6 pm. As a new volunteer for AARP, Leslie went to a hearing at the capitol about a bill that would provide tax credits to caregivers. She learned that 400,000 people are caring for a relative at home in CT. Senator Jeff Gordon testified in favor of this bill but our state assemblyman Doug Dubitski did not support it. She spoke to him and he was not interested in this issue. Leslie asks board members to come to the town hall meeting Wednesday to support this important issue for seniors.
4. **Review and act on minutes of February 4, 2025.** Ellen Gillon made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of February 4th, 2025. Shirley Rakos seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with abstentions by Janice Godaire and Dawn Gilbert.

5. Old Business

5a. Director's Report:

- a. Special Revenue Fund: \$39,524.07
- b. Cash on Hand: \$424.48

c. Membership: 413, increased by 2 since last meeting.

d. Dues for 2025 thus far: \$1,550

Lisa stated that she feels it's necessary to increase the charge for lunches from \$6 to \$7 because of increasing food prices. She suggests that if this seems to lead to fewer people participating, we could use funds from special revenues to cover the extra costs.

e. Correspondence: None

Lisa reported on the attendance for last month's activities. Total guests for February were 610. Total lunches served were 330. 38 attended breakfast, 103 attended Fit and Fun exercise class, 10 came to play Mexican Train, 29 played Bingo, 55 played Mah Jongg, 47 played pickleball, 15 attended yoga class, 7 attended the memoir group, 11 haircuts were given and 8 people received massages. There was a special outing on President's Day to Twins Pizza which 25 people attended.

Upcoming activities include a reception for the monthly artist and the Chili Challenge on Sat 5-7 pm. No need to sign up for the Chili Challenge, just bring your chili or come to be a taste tester. The foot care specialist appointments are filling up quickly. The Library is having an Irish band again this year on March 29th, 3-4:30 which was well attended last year.

5b. Art Committee Update: Ellen Gillon reported that the May artist will be Gabrielle Zane and in April will be Jane Collins.

5c. Chorus Update: The chorus is still on hold per Ellen.

5d. Facility Update: Lisa reported that currently everything in the building is running well. The hot water has not always been hot enough for health department standards so a new hot water heater is being installed to be paid for by the Senior Center and Library. We have a budget item for maintenance that will cover this and Lisa thinks there will most likely be enough in that line item to cover this and whatever else may come up.

6. New Business

a. **Distribute Revised Bylaws:** Irene said she submitted the revised bylaws to the town clerk to make the minor change and she will distribute these at the next meeting.

b. **Update on Assistant Chef Position:** Applications are no longer being accepted. Interview process has not yet begun.

c. **New Horizons Music Program Update:** Lisa announced it in the newsletter and posted it at the desk. One person asked about it.

d. **Suggestions for Events and Activities:** There will be a workshop on bulb forcing.

7. **Suggestions for topic for the next meeting on April 1, 2025.** Need to discuss the plant sale to be held the day before Mother's Day. Sixty hanging baskets have been ordered for this year.

8. **Next Meeting Date:** April 1st, 2025 at 10 am at the Chaplin Senior Center.

9. **Adjournment** at 10:34 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Lewis