

Woodbridge Human Services Commission

Minutes of the February 3, 2025 Meeting

In-person, Woodbridge Center-Lounge

7:00 p.m.

Members Present: C. Austin, Chair, J. Ciarleglio, A. Holzman, V. Livesay, B.P. Madden, L.F. Miller, A. Sanchez, E. Scanlon

Staff present: J. Glicksman, Human Services Director, K. Moriarty, Woodbridge Center Director, Mica Cardozo, First Selectman

Absent: J. Clarke-Lofters, N. Pfund, Youth Services Director

Meeting called to order at 7:04 p.m. by C. Austin, Chair

I. **Public Comment**

Although publicly noticed, no members of the public were in attendance.

II. **Additions to the Agenda**

There were no additions to the agenda.

III. **Minutes of December 2, 2024 and January 6, 2025 meetings**

L.F. Miller made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 2, 2024 meeting, as amended by J. Glicksman. B.P. Madden seconded. Motion approved by C. Austin, J. Ciarleglio, A. Holzman, B.P. Madden, and L.F. Miller. V. Livesay, A. Sanchez and E. Scanlon abstained.

C. Austin made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 6, 2025 meeting. E. Scanlon seconded. Motion approved by C. Austin, A. Holzman, L.F. Miller, A. Sanchez, and E. Scanlon. J. Ciarleglio, V. Livesay, and B.P. Madden abstained.

IV. **FY26 Operating Budget/ Capital Budget-update-thank you to all who attended the presentation**

J. Glicksman thanked each of the members who supported the budget by attending the presentation to the joint Boards of Selectman and Finance. The date of the preliminary budget hearing in April will be sent to all Commission members.

V. **Youth Services**

J. Glicksman presented the January 2024 Youth Services (YS) report, which is on file in the Human Services office.

- **Programming**

- Winter Paint Party – Eighteen students in grades K-3 participated in the Beecher Road School (BRS) winter painting party with Picasso Parties. Parents provided positive feedback and expressed an interest in having Picasso return later this year.
- Valentine Cupcake Decorating – This event is planned for February 11 at the Amity Middle School in Bethany (AMSB). Due to low enrollment, the event may need to be

canceled. Despite being well-publicized, students are not showing interest. YS will need to reevaluate whether this event should, instead, be offered to BRS students in the future.

- Job Bank – Two students came in for Job Bank interviews, one of whom was offered an open job (transcribing handwritten letters from cursive into text).

- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

- The town attorney authorized the execution of an MOU to permit the sharing of student data. The document, originally provided by the Connecticut Youth Service Association, is an agreement which allows schools to share educational records with Youth Services for purposes of support programming, as well as YS participation in the Truancy Review Board.

V. Livesay made a motion to accept the January 2025 Youth Services report. A. Sanchez seconded. Motion approved by all members present.

VI. **The Woodbridge Center**

K. Moriarty presented the January 2025 Woodbridge Center report, which is on file in the Human Services office.

- January Programs/Events:

- January Coffee Bar – Sponsored by “The Gin Rummy Group.”
- Painting for Pleasure – New session began on January 6, 2025.
- Beat the Blues Luncheon catered by Carmine’s Di Vega with live music by local jazz musician, Jon Blanck – January 9, 2025 (59 participants).
- T’ai Ji Quan: Moving for Better Balance – Two 24-week sessions began on January 13, 2025 (31 registered participants).
- One to One Tech Help – Tech assistance provided by Amity High School students on January 13, 2025 (3 participants).
- Cocoa and Canvas – Class given by Liz Smolinski, followed by pizza lunch (29 students and 10 center members participated).
- Lunch and Learn – Aquatic Birds of CT – January 30, 2025 (42 participants).

- Upcoming Programs/Events

- Lunch and Learn – Habits for a Healthy Brain – February 6, 2025 (60 registrants).
- Brain Games and Pizza Lunch – February 20, 2025 – provided by Danielle Ramos, Milford Health and Rehabilitation Center.
- Lunch Bunch – Wild Kanji Hibachi – February 24, 2025.

- Other Updates

- 2013 Ford Explorer is out of service and awaiting inspection.
- Indoor pickleball is now being offered most mornings, in addition to afternoons.
- Mahjong continues to increase in popularity with over 130 in attendance in January.
- Center continues to be understaffed. It is still without a Coordinator.
- \$2,000 has been collected through non-resident membership fees (80 people).
- The Center will be looking at further defining the new non-resident fee structure.

C. Austin made a motion to accept the January 2025 Woodbridge Center report. J. Ciarleglio seconded. Motion was approved by all members present.

VII. Human Services

J. Glicksman presented the January 2025 Human Services (HS) report, which is on file in the Human Services office.

- Programs
 - Blood Drive with the Red Cross – January 31, April 28 and September 15, 2025.
 - Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) – Begins on February 4, 2025.
 - Suicide Prevention Training – Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) certification (Judy and Jeanette participated).
- Personnel
 - C. Austin, K. Moriarty, and J. Glicksman met with the Personnel Committee of the Board of Selectmen in January and successfully obtained approval from the full Board of Selectmen to hire a full-time Center Coordinator. Ongoing staff shortages continue to make coverage difficult in the Center, as well as in the Youth and Human Services offices. The Center Coordinator position has already been posted on Indeed.com and the department has received 10 resumes to date. The position will be advertised through March 4th.
- Earth Day
 - This event is scheduled for April 26, 2025. A. Sanchez and E. Scanlon volunteered to serve on a subcommittee to assist with this Town-wide event.

C. Austin made a motion to accept the January 2025 Human Services report. V. Livesay seconded. Motion approved by all members present.

VIII. Commission Chair Report

C. Austin presented the Chair Report.

- Human Services 2025 POCD update – C. Austin and J. Glicksman met with Robert Collins, SLR Consultants, to discuss the department's contribution to the POCD, which was well-received. HS will be providing Mr. Collins with additional information concerning grants.
- CCW Committee-update- C. Austin attended the most recent Open House and asked members to consider responding to any surveys that are distributed for community input.
- Election of Officers – Mica Cardozo confirmed that elections are not required at this time because current terms are for two years, not one. C. Austin made a motion to establish a new officer, an Alternate Secretary, who will be responsible for filling in when the Secretary is unable. B.P. Madden seconded. All approved. C. Austin made a motion to elected Erin Scanlon as the Alternate Secretary for a one-year term. A. Holzman seconded the motion. All approved.

IX. Old Business/ New Business

Community Services Department - First Selectman Mica Cardozo addressed the Commission to announce town plans to create a new "Community Services Department." The goal is to improve efficiencies by consolidating the Woodbridge Center, Human Services, Youth Services, and

Recreation under one umbrella. He indicated that he is open to suggestions concerning how best to effectuate these changes, including how to merge both commissions into one with approximately 10/11 members. He expects to have the new department created before this summer.

Next Meeting – Monday, March 3, 2025

X.

Adjournment

C. Austin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 p.m. B.P. Madden seconded. The motion was approved by acclamation.

Submitted by:

Human Services Commission

Minutes prepared by V. Livesay
Human Services Commission Secretary

Accepted and approved this Day of , 2025.