



DEBORAH NEWTON
Chair

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

Human Services Commission

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187

GAYETHRI NARAYANSWAMY
DEANNA WAMBOLT-GULICK
LENORA WILLIAMS
RAJEE ASSUDANI
PATRICIA SZAFIR
DIANE HARDING
KALAGENA SULLIVAN

HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 6, 2025
Ellington Human Services
31 Arbor Way
6:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Deanna Wambolt-Gulick, Deborah Newton, Patricia Szafir, Gayethri Narayanswamy, Rajee Assudani, Lenora Williams, Kalagena Sullivan

OTHERS PRESENT: Rebecca Stack - Director of Human Services; Stephen Clapp – Elderly Outreach, Assistant Secretary Grace Boucher; Cornerstone

Call to Order:

Debi Newton called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

New Member Introduction:

Members welcomed Kalagena Sullivan to the Human Services Commission.

Speaker:

Assistant Secretary Grace Boucher from Cornerstone gave an overview of the various services that Cornerstone provides. Cornerstone is a faith-based nonprofit dedicated to supporting individuals and families in need by ensuring they are safe, fed, housed, and clothed. The organization operates three shelters and provides housing support, along with a community kitchen and food pantry to address food insecurity. Cornerstone also maintains a clothing bank and hosts regular donation drop-offs, as well as a diaper bank for families in need. In addition to these essential services, the organization organizes annual and community events, including Soupfest, where soup from local restaurants can be enjoyed, holiday meals around Thanksgiving and Christmas, and other initiatives such as the Halloween Boutique to engage the community in charitable giving.

Approval Minutes:

MOVED (Wambolt-Gulick) SECONDED (Szafir) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 8, 2025 MEETING.

Citizens' Forum:

None

Directors Report: Rebecca Stack

Mrs. Stack provided an update on current programs and upcoming events:

- Discussed this year's **Holiday Program**, including last year's participation levels and distribution process. Copies of the donation form were shared.
- **Energy Assistance** is currently underway.
- **Renters Rebate** program has concluded for this year.
- **Medicare Open Enrollment** begins **October 15th**, with presentations scheduled at both the library and the senior center in the coming months.
- A fall food drive is currently happening for the food bank. Collecting food and grocery store gift cards. The flyer for this will be shared to members via email.

Adjournment:

MOVED (Narayanswamy), SECONDED (Williams), AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 6:52 PM.

Submitted By:

X

Kelly Luginbuhl, Recording Secretary