STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

Human Services Commission

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

PATRICIA SZAFIR
Chair

GAYETHRI NARAYANSWAMY
DEANNA WAMBOLT-GULICK
LENORA WILLIAMS
RAJEE ASSUDANI
DIANE HARDING
TRACY MERCIER
CHRISTAL BANVILLE

HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Monday, October 5, 2026
Ellington Human Services
31 Arbor Way
6:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Deanna Wambolt-Gulick, Patricia Szafir, Lenora Williams, Diane Harding, Tracy Mercier

OTHERS PRESENT: Rebecca Stack - Director of Human Services; Stephen Clapp – Elderly Outreach

Call to Order:

Patricia Szafir called the meeting to order at 6:19 pm.

Introductions:

A new member, Christal Banville, has joined the Human Services Commission.

Approval of Minutes:

MOVED (Harding) SECONDED (Williams) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE September 14th, 2026 MEETING.

Community Comment:

None

Human Services Report:

A. Food Drive Partnership with Schools
Kelly is coordinating a partnership with Ellington Public Schools for food drives in November. Commission members volunteered to assist in donation collections for the following schools:

- Crystal Lake: Deanna
- Center School: Tracy
- Windermere: Lenora
- Backup: Pat

B. Community Needs

i. Upcoming Holidays
The Commission discussed holiday donations, with a focus on gift cards. Suggested donations included grocery store, haircut, and Uber/Lyft gift cards.

ii. Elderly and Disabled Holiday Gift Giving
Tracy recommended reaching out to the high school to see if students wanted to participate.

iii. Giving Tree
The Giving Tree program was discussed.

C. Commission Membership and Attendance
Rebecca reviewed the Commission's attendance policy and guidelines, which were included in the meeting materials.

New Business

a. Kloter's Ice Cream Barn - October 12th - Volunteers Needed. Kloter Farms requested that the Human Services Dept. be the recipient of their end-of-the-year fundraiser on Monday, Oct. 12th. They will need a table set up with a representative and information on what Human Services does. Rebecca asked commission members to volunteer to stand at the table from 12:00-9:30. An email will be sent to members with a sign-up sheet for time slots.

b. Partnerships with Places of Worship - collaboration with places of worship if anyone has connections or contacts that they want to include in any of these meetings. Lenora suggested including a blurb of information in church bulletins.

Adjournment:

MOVED (Williams), SECONDED (Wambolt-Gulick), AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 6:56 PM.

Submitted By:

X_____
Kelly Luginbuhl, Recording Secretary