

**CITY OF NORWALK
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING JUNE 24, 2026
VIA ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING**

ATTENDANCE: Anne Wennerstrand (Chair), Jan Degenshein, Brian Bailey, Broderick Sawyer.

STAFF: Keenan McMahon (Director of Human Services), Sherelle Harris (Director, Norwalk Public Library), Julianne Foy.

OTHERS: Chris Jachino (Family & Children's Agency), Marissa Mangone and Nathalie Rodriguez (Mid-Fairfield Community Care Center)

CALL TO ORDER

Anne Wennerstrand called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Committee members present as noted above.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting Minutes dated May 27, 2026

**** MR. DEGENSHEIN MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No public comments were received. Public participation was closed at 7:08 p.m.

DISCUSSION

A. Update from Human Services Director Keenan McMahon on Recipients of the 2026 Community Impact Mini-Grant Program

Keenan McMahon provided an informational update on the 2026 Community Impact Mini-Grant Program. Fourteen organizations were selected from 22 applicants to receive grants ranging from \$6,000 to \$10,000. The total funding pool was \$125,000. The selected recipients were: Connecticut Financial Scholars, Corners Community, First Congregational Church, Horizons at Connecticut State Norwalk, Is Your School Safe Inc., Norwalk Academy of Multilingual Students, The Norwalk Art Space, Norwalk Junior Football Association, Norwalk Mutual Aid, Norwalk Symphony Orchestra,

Ready to Empower, Saturday Academy Inc., The Courage to Speak Foundation, and Women's Mentoring Network. The item was informational only; no action was taken.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Parking Lease Extension – Norwalk Aerie No. 588, Fraternal Order of Eagles, Inc.

Authorize the Mayor to execute agreements to extend the parking lease for 30 spaces behind the main branch of the Norwalk Public Library for one year (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027) at an annual rent of \$14,400 (Account #016200-5265).

Sherelle Harris presented the item. The lease supports library programming and patron access. The rate increase from the prior year was \$1,800. The library currently has approximately 79 parking spaces in total.

**** MR. SAWYER MOVED TO APPROVE AND FORWARD TO THE FULL CITY COUNCIL.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. Agreement – Family & Children's Agency (Municipal Agent for the Elderly)

Authorize the Mayor to execute agreements with Family & Children's Agency to provide Municipal Agent for the Elderly services for the period July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027, in the amount of \$163,000 (Account #012010-5298).

Chris Jachino presented the item. The program provides in-person case management, benefits navigation, well-being checks, rent rebate assistance, energy assistance, SNAP/CHOICES applications, and group programming. In the current fiscal year, the program served over 940 clients (84% age 65+), conducted over 5,200 well-being checks, processed over 900 rent rebate applications (\$430,000+ in relief), and assisted with housing insecurity and care coordination.

**** MR. DEGENSHEIN MOVED TO APPROVE AND FORWARD TO THE FULL CITY COUNCIL.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

C. Agreement – Mid-Fairfield Community Care Center (LINC Program)

Authorize the Mayor to execute agreements with Mid-Fairfield Community Care Center to support the Latinx Integrated Care (LINC) Program for the period July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027, in the amount of \$100,000 (Account #012010-5298).

Marissa Mangone and Nathalie Rodriguez presented the item. The school-based program reduces barriers to care for multilingual learners and newcomer families through licensed clinicians and care coordinators. Services are provided in eight schools with strong partnerships with Norwalk Public Schools. Of clients discharged this year, approximately 90% showed meaningful improvements in functioning and problem severity. Over 90% reported positive experiences with staff communication and responsiveness.

**** MR. DEGENSHEIN MOVED TO APPROVE AND FORWARD TO THE FULL CITY COUNCIL.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADJOURNMENT

****MR. SAWYER MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.**

****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:45 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Courtney Baldwin
Recording Secretary