

Youth, Family and Human Services Commission Meeting
Olive Chendali, East Lyme Community Center
October 9, 2025, 6:00 pm
Regular Meeting

Present:

D. Hull – Chairman
J. Brush
J. Hanna
S. Miller
V. Brush
J. Shelburn

Absent: L. McGowan

Also present: Director; S. Firmin, Ex-Officio; C. Carlson

Call to Order:

Chairman D. Hull called the meeting to order at 6:07pm.

Public Delegation:

No members of the public were present.

Minutes:

J. Shelburn moved to approve the September 2025 meeting minutes as submitted, seconded by J. Brush.

Approved unanimously.

Director's Report:

- a) Director, S. Firmin, provided an update on current programs.
- b) The commission discussed the changes to ski club after S. Firmin shared the disappointment expressed by some parents regarding no transportation provided by the department this year.
- c) The commission supports the decision to have parents provide transportation since transportation is a great expense for the department and there's always the need to have chaperones when the department provides transportation.
- d) Chairman, D. Hull and S. Firmin discussed the positive feedback other towns have received from having parents/guardians providing the transportation. Highlighting how this encourages families and guardians to engage in the activity as well.
- e) S. Firmin informed the commission that she and the social services case manager are monitoring the government shutdown closely and the impact it could have on programs and services provided.
- f) The social services case manager has consistent appointments each day with members of the community in need of energy assistance, renters' rebate, and other resources.

Ex-Officious Report:

- a) Ex-Officio, C. Carlson, updated the commission on the annual grant for the town clerk, the CIP Committee, the roof replacement, and a meeting that occurred regarding the need to fill the SRO position for the schools.
- b) D. Hull informed the commission that the new police Chief is in support of having a school resource officer back in the school, with the goal of having one in each school. Unfortunately, there will be no immediate relief this year due to the reduction in officers at the PD.
- c) D. Hull discussed his meeting with the Salem Security Advocate. The goal is to have a school resource officer in the Salem school as well.

Student Report:

- a) Student, V. Brush, reported homecoming has been pushed back until November.
- b) D. Hull discussed the installation of vape detectors in all the bathrooms at the high school. Reporting administration can monitor the data closely and students caught vaping are receiving consequences (i.e. ISS, out of school suspensions, and a meeting with student support specialist, Dan Reynolds.
- c) D. Hull reported the high school had no vandalism incidents in the first month of school.

Communications:

- a) None

Unfinished Business:

- a) S. Firmin informed the commission of the CIP request submitted.
- b) The commission was provided with an update on the bulk mailing and the cost.

New Business:

- a) D. Hull reported that two officers will be attending the narcotics conference in Newport next month. The expenses are being covered by the opioid settlement funds.
- b) Officer. VanOverloop will provide the commission with an overview of the conference.

Adjournment:

J. Shelburn motioned to adjourn at 6:48pm, seconded by J. Brush. Approved unanimously.