



TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Social Services Board

Meeting Minutes - Final

Chair
Mikayla Bozym

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

5:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Hybrid Format

REMOTE MEETING INFORMATION

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85719852855?pwd=v1PxUCURFJMG6l41PmxNy8A2zfbrZq.1>
Meeting ID: 857 1985 2855 Passcode: 577903 • +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bozym called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. at the Council Chambers, Town Hall Annex Building.

II. ROLL CALL

Present Board Member Mikayla E. Bozym
 Board Member Tricia Marcek
 Board Member Jacqueline Kapusta
 Board Member Stephanie Bacon
 Colleen Lauer
Excused Board Member Heather Shipley
 Board Member Maria Nott

In addition, the following were present:

Fred B. Allyn III, Mayor

Kristen Chapman, Executive Assistant to the Mayor/Social Services Coordinator

III. RESIDENTS & PROPERTY OWNERS COMMENTS

None

IV. MEMBER COMMENTS

V. REPORTS

1. Social Services Report

TOWN OF LEDYARD CONNECTICUT

Report for Ledyard Social Services

April - June 2025

Food Pantry Statistics

	People	Households	Total Visits
July	122	57	94
Aug	122	50	90
Sept	131	56	84
Oct	152	62	106
Nov	150	62	92
Dec	126	53	72
Jan	165	64	105
Feb	126	51	75
Mar	130	54	92
Apr	117	51	81
May	156	63	95
June	112	48	69
YTD	1,055		

Referrals (April - June 2025)

211 - 3

Elder Protective Services - 2

LICEAF - 2

State Department of Social Services - 3

TVCCA - 1

Veteran Representative - 1

Other - 0

Social Services Account Balances

Linda C. Davis Food Pantry - \$108,352.30

Parks & Rec Camp Scholarships - \$1531.00

Parks & Recreation Scholarships ARPA - \$4,180.00

S.S. Miscellaneous Assistance - \$1146.57

Discussion:

Ms. Chapman reviewed the report with the Board. She informed the Board that in terms of referrals, these numbers reflect residents that she is spending time with either in person or over the phone and directing those individuals to services the town does not provide. Ms. Chapman added she may receive many phone calls in a day but if she is just giving someone a phone number to call, that is not reflected in these referrals.

Ms. Kapusta inquired how much was collected at the Congregational Church breakfast. Ms. Chapman responded \$480.00, the event was successful and we were able to share information about the scholarship program and Social Services.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. MOTION to approve the Social Services Board Regular Meeting Minutes of May 22, 2025.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Jacqueline Kapusta

SECONDER: Tricia Marcek

AYE 5 Bozym Marcek Kapusta Bacon Lauer

EXCUSED 2 Shipley Nott

VII. OLD BUSINESS

1. Linda C. Davis Food Pantry Update

Ms. Chapman stated the food pantry received an inspection from Gemma E. Morhan Food Center and passed with flying colors. Ms. Marcek provided an update on food sourcing through TEFAP (The Emergency Food Assistance Program). Ms. Marcek stated a large part of the TEFAP program has been cut resulting in a loss of 35 truckloads of food that would have gone to CT Foodshare to distribute to pantries. The LFPA (Local Food Purchase Assistance) was also eliminated which worked with farmers to grow and provide produce to pantries. On a positive note, the CT NAP (Connecticut Nutrition Assistance Program) will be funded at \$3million this year and \$6million next year. Ms. Marcek participated in a survey as to what types of foods we would like more of such as cheese, juice, and milk. Ms. Marcek added that the minimum order from CT Foodshare is 500 lbs and many weeks she is unable to order as there is not a large enough variety of foods to reach the 500 lbs. Ms. Marcek also recently participated in a tour with CT Foodshare of New London area pantries.

2. Parks & Recreation Summer Camp Scholarships

Ms. Chapman stated that applications are still open and any funds not utilized this year will be rolled over to next year.

3. Any Old Business proper to come before the Board.

None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. "Pack it Back to School"- School Supply Drive

Ms. Chapman stated the school supply drive is open and thanked Board members for sharing the information on Facebook. Ms. Chapman provided flyers to the group. There will be a booth to collect supplies at the August 13th Farmer's Market and invited board members to stop by if available. On the town website, there is a link to an Amazon wish list for backpacks. Supplies can be brought to Town Hall or placed in the donation bin at the Food Pantry. Ms. Marcek inquired if people ask is it easier to purchase from the wish list or give a financial donation. Ms. Chapman responded the wish list is for the backpacks and all other supplies can be dropped off and it is nice when she doesn't have to run to Walmart or other places to get supplies. Last year the Farmer's Market was a great success.

Ms. Chapman shared the backpack distribution will take place on Monday, August 18th in the

Town Council Annex and children are able to come in and choose a backpack. Ms. Marcek inquired if the children are already registered. Ms. Chapman stated an email blast goes out to all current registered Social Services guests, but if someone is in need they can sign up and if someone is in need of a backpack they may be in need of other services.

2. Discussion and possible action - Ledyard Rotary Foundation Grant

Ms. Chapman stated this is something that we have applied to and received in the past. Ms. Chapman added that herself and Ms. Lauer are members of the Rotary, if Ms. Bozym would like to apply on behalf of the board, Ms. Chapman can provide the information. Ms. Lauer added that applications can be submitted now and the selection process takes place in June. Ms. Chapman and Ms. Bozym will work on the application and run the request through the Finance Committee and Town Council.

3. Any New Business proper to come before the Board.

Ms. Chapman stated that she is working with Parks & Recreation on an idea to create an annual event to raise funds for Summer Camp Scholarship. Ms. Chapman is meeting tomorrow to discuss a Fall Festival for October 11th that would include a 5K Color Run, Vendors etc... Ms. Chapman stated the ask for the Board would be volunteers the day of the event. The goal would be to create a fun, family friendly annual event in which all the proceeds go to scholarships.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Kapusta moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Ms. Marcek

The meeting adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

VOTE: 5-0 Approved and so declared

Respectively Submitted,

Chairman Bozym
Social Services Board