



# TOWN OF LEDYARD CONNECTICUT

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway  
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

## Community Relations Committee For Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Chairman Gary St. Vil

### ~ AGENDA ~

Special Meeting

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Thursday, January 29, 2026

6:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Hybrid Format

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In -Person: Council Chambers, Town Hall Annex Building

Remote Participation: Information Noted Below:

**Join Zoom Meeting from your Computer, Smart Phone or Tablet:**

**<https://ledyardct.zoom.us/j/82115694476?pwd=TZOr0siewvYBjSRECghDBdbExl0fly.1>  
Or by Audio Only: Telephone: +1 646 558 8656; +Meeting ID: 821 1569 4476; Passcode: 152005**

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. RESIDENTS & PROPERTY OWNERS COMMENTS
- IV. PRESENTATIONS / INFORMATIONAL ITEMS
- V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION to approve the Community Relations Committee Minutes as follows:

- Organizational Meeting of December 17, 2025
- Regular Meeting of December 17, 2025

**Attachments:** [COM-REL-MIN-2025-12-17-ORGANIZATIONAL MTG](#)  
[COM-REL-MIN-2025-12-17](#)

VI. BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

- 1. Primary Care for All Americans- Framework

**Attachments:** Dr Fine Presentation-Healthcare-Town Council Mtg-2025-09-10  
Parad-Inviation-Community outreach hope house-email-2025-09-19  
Parad-Partner-Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation & Town Healthcare  
Parad-Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation-Healthcare Framework for  
Ledyard-ema; -2025-09-27

- 2. Develop a relationship with the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Council to help foster communication and mutual points of interest.
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3. Recognition of Colonel William Ledyard and Commemorate the Battle of Groton Heights.
4. Discussion and possible action regarding the 2026 Black History Month Program (February)
5. Discussion and possible action regarding Woman's History Month (March)
  - Linda C. Davis Woman of the Year Award
6. Jewish Americans/Asian Americans (May)
7. Discuss the Foster Care Community.
8. Discussion and possible action to identify various town venues to host "Informal Conversations in the Park" to engage residents in discussions regarding their concerns and their ideas for potential solutions.
9. Discussion regarding the Pride Pizza in the Park (June)
10. Native America History Month (October)
11. Farmers Market Booths to highlight town services.
12. Coordinate and Support Town Organizations such as:
  - Linda C. Davis Food Pantry
  - Citizens Helping Animals in Need (CHAIN)
13. Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Crossover with Board of Education
14. Organizations for those with Disabilities - Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) Month
15. Homeless Hospitality Center in New London
16. National Immigrant Community (National Immigrant Heritage Month - June)

IV ADJOURNMENT

DISCLAIMER: Although we try to be timely and accurate these are not official records of the Town.



# TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard  
Highway  
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

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**File #:** 26-0082

**Agenda Date:** 1/23/2026

**Agenda #:**

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## MINUTES

### **Minutes:**

MOTION to approve the Community Relations Committee Minutes as follows:

- Organizational Meeting of December 17, 2025
- Regular Meeting of December 17, 2025



Chairman Gary St. Vil

**TOWN OF LEDYARD**  
CONNECTICUT  
TOWN COUNCIL

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway  
Ledyard, CT 06339  
<http://www.ledyardct.org>  
Administrative Assistant  
Roxanne M. Maher  
860 464-3203

HYBRID FORMAT  
MINUTES  
COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE  
FOR DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION  
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

6:15 PM

Town Hall Annex-Video Conference

**DRAFT**

- I. CALL TO ORDER – The Meeting was called to order by Councilor Brunelle at 6:15p.m. at the Annex Meeting Room - Town Hall Annex Building.

Councilor Brunelle welcomed all to the Hybrid Meeting. She stated for the Town Council Community Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion and members of the Public who were participating via video conference that the remote meeting information was available on the Agenda that was posted on the Town’s Website – Granicus-Insite Meeting Portal.

- II. ROLL CALL-

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Location	Arrived	Departed
April Brunelle	Committee Chairman	Present	In-Person	6:15 pm	6:21 pm
Adrienne Parad	Town Councilor	Present	In-Person	6:15 pm	6:21 pm
Ty (Earl) Lamb	Town Councilor	Present	In-Person	6:15 pm	6:21 pm
Jeff Eilenberger	Resident	Present	In-Person	6:15 pm	6:21 pm
Roxanne Maher	Administrative Assistant	Present	Remote	6:15 pm	6:21 pm

BUSINESS OF MEETING

1. MOTION to set the Community Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Regular Meeting schedule for the 2026 Calendar Year to be the third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. as follows:

**Community Relations Committee (3rd Wednesday, Annex Building 6:30 p.m.)**

January 21	February 18	March 18	April 15
May 20	June 17	July 15	August 19
September 16	October 21	November 18	December 16
January 20, 2027			

Moved by Councilor Brunelle, seconded by Councilor Lamb

**VOTE: 3 – 0- Approved and so declared**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>3 – 0 APPROVED</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	April Brunelle, Committee Member
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Ty Lamb, Committee Member
<b>AYES:</b>	April Brunelle, Ty Lamb, Adrienne Parad

2. Outstanding action items contained in the memo dated November 12, 2025, as forwarded by Community Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion of the Twenty-seventh Town Council.

The Community Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion reviewed the list of Outstanding Business Items as noted below:

- (1) Primary Care for All American
- (2) Develop/Foster Relationship with Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation
- (3) Plan Event to Recognize Colonel William Ledyard and Commemorate the Battle of Groton Heights
- (4) February - Black History Month Essay & Poster Contest
- (5) March – Woman’s History Month
  - Linda C. Davis Woman of the Year Award
- (6) May – Jewish American/Asian Americans
- (7) Foster Care Community
- (8) Informal Conversations in the Park (Open Topics)
- (9) June – Pride Pizza in the Park
- (10) October – Native America History Month
- (11) Farmers Market Booths to highlight town services
- (12) Coordinate and Sponsor Town Organizations such as:
  - Linda C. Davis Food Pantry and
  - Citizens Helping Animals In Need (CHAIN)

Councilor Brunelle explained at the end of its term the Town Council and its Subcommittees have traditionally prepared a memo to forward outstanding items of business to the newly elected incoming Town Council.

In accordance with Roberts Rules of Order:

*"After each annual meeting in such case, the board elects new officers and committees, the same as if the entire board had been re-elected.*

*All unfinished business falls to the ground when the new board is elected.*

*It is customary for the by-laws to require an annual report from the Board of Managers, which usually gives a brief account of its doings for the year with recommendations for the future."*

Councilor Brunelle noted that the Community Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion would be discussing these items further at their Regular Meeting scheduled for 5:30 p.m. this evening.

**RESULT: COMPLETED**

IV. COMMENTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS – None.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

**VOTE:** Councilor Brunelle moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Councilor Lamb.  
**3 – 0 Approved and so declared.** The meeting was adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

April Brunelle  
Committee Chairman  
Community Relations Committee



Chairman Gary St. Vil

**TOWN OF LEDYARD**  
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HYBRID FORMAT  
MINUTES  
COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE  
FOR DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION  
REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

6:30 PM

Town Hall Annex-Video Conference

**DRAFT**

- I. CALL TO ORDER – The Meeting was called to order by Councilor Brunelle at 6:32p.m. at the Annex Meeting Room - Town Hall Annex Building.

Councilor Brunelle welcomed all to the Hybrid Meeting. She stated for the Town Council Community Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion and members of the Public who were participating via video conference that the remote meeting information was available on the Agenda that was posted on the Town’s Website – Granicus-Insite Meeting Portal.

- II. ROLL CALL-

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Location	Arrived	Departed
April Brunelle	Committee Chairman	Present	In-Person	6:30 pm	7:16 pm
Adrienne Parad	Town Councilor	Present	In-Person	6:30 pm	7:16 pm
Ty (Earl) Lamb	Town Councilor	Present	In-Person	6:32 pm	7:16 pm
Jeff Eilenberger	Resident	Present	In-Person	6:32 pm	6:45 pm
Roxanne Maher	Administrative Assistant	Present	Remote	6:32 pm	7:16 pm

- III. RESIDENTS & PROPERTY OWNERS COMMENTS – None.

- IV. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS/PRESENTATION – None.

- IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION to approve the following Community Relations for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Minutes of October 15, 2025

Moved by Councilor Brunelle, seconded by Councilor Parad

**VOTE: 3 – 0- Approved and so declared**

- V. OLD BUSINESS

Councilor Brunelle explained that although the Community Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion does have some old business items, as they reviewed during their Organizational Meeting earlier this evening; that because tonight was the

first Regular Meeting for this newly assigned Community Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion all items would appear under New Business this evening.

## VI. NEW BUSINESS

Councilor Lamb stated that he would like to add the following items for discussion this evening: (1) Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Crossover with Board of Education ; (2) Organizations for those with Disabilities -Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) Month; (3) Immigrant Community; (4) Homeless Hospitality Cetner.

❖ MOTION to ad the following discussion items to tonight’s Agenda:

- Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Crossover with Board of Education
- Organizations for those with Disabilities - Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) Month
- Immigrant Community
- Homeless Hospitality Cetner in New London

Moved by Councilor Brunelle, seconded by Councilor Parad

**VOTE: 3 – 0 Approved and so declared**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>3 – 0 APPROVED TO RECOMMEND</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	April Brunelle, Committee Member
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Adrienne Parad, Committee Member
<b>AYES:</b>	April Brunelle, Ty Lamb, Adrienne Parad

Councilor Brunelle stated that these items would be added to tonight’s Agenda as Items: #13, 14, 15, 16.

### 1. Primary Care for All Americans

Councilor Parad provided some background, noting at the Town Council’s September 10, 2025 meeting Dr. Fine gave a presentation on *Primary Care for All*. She stated that Dr. Fine was one of the founders of the Scituate Health Alliance, which was an initiative that made Scituate, Rhode Island—population just 10,000—the first place in the United States where every resident was guaranteed access to primary care. She stated that *Primary Care for All* would provide actual care such as: annual physicals, sick visits, screenings, and preventive services, all available for just \$10 per visit. She stated Scituate, Rhode Island was built on local leadership, and the belief that healthcare should be a public good.

Councilor Parad went on to state after seeing Dr. Fine’s Presentation that Mr. Drew Chappell attended the Community Relations Committee for DEI October 15, 2025

meeting to express his interest and willingness to help with the initiative locally here in Ledyard. She stated that Mr. Chappell was a Ledyard resident and that he had some medical background noting that he worked in prehospital care as a paramedic (EMT) for fifteen years working with American Ambulance (now Hartford Healthcare); and that he also worked in the emergency departments of Backus Hospital and Plainfield Emergency Care Center.

Councilor Parad stated that Mr. Chappell has taken over the process to launch the *Ledyard Primary Care for All Americans PILOT Program*. She stated that the *Ledyard Primary Care for All Americans Committee* has met once in-person and were in the information gathering process to find out how much access does Ledyard Residents have to Primary Care, were they using it, etc. She stated with this information the Committee would work to try to figure out how to save money for healthcare expenditures. She stated that it looked like Ledyard would be a subgroup of the National Organization; “Primary Care for All Americans” which has a 501(c) non-profit status. She stated the *Ledyard Primary Care for All Americans Committee* has been vibrant on-line with social media, etc.

Councilor Lamb stated that reviewed Dr. Fine’s PowerPoint Presentation and that he thought *Primary Care for All Americans* was a great initiative, noting that the healthcare system in America had to be fixed. He stated that he would like to see their local leaders work with their State Representatives to reform health insurance.

Councilor Parad suggested Councilor Lamb watch the video from the Town Council’s September 10, 2025 meeting, at which Dr. Fine gave an informative presentation.

**RESULT: CONTINUED**

**Next Meeting: 1/21/2026 6:30 p.m.**

2. Protocol to develop a relationship with the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Council to help foster communication and mutual points of interest.

Councilor Brunelle provided some background noting that the Community Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion has had this item on their agenda, noting that former Town Council Chairman Naomi Rodriguez had been communicating with some members of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Council. She asked whether Councilor Parad or Councilor Lamb would like to volunteer to be their spokesperson, noting that she did not have a problem with taking on that role, if they were not interested.

Councilor Lamb stated that he believed it was important to have a relationship with the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation. He stated that he thought the town should have a relationship with all of the Indian Tribes in their area including the Eastern Pequot Tribe, and the Mohegan Tribe. He stated that he was 1,000% behind communicating with all of the Tribes in their area and to find win-win opportunities with them.

Councilor Lamb stated that the Board of Education had to have a relationship with the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe for legal purposes. Therefore, he questioned the town’s goal to develop a relationship with the Tribe. Councilor Brunelle explained that the

Community Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion goal was to serve as an Ambassador to foster communication.

Councilor Lamb stated the Historic District Commission has been communicating with the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe; and he questioned whether the Commission could continue to do that. Councilor Brunelle stated that the Historic District Commission could continue to communicate with the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe.

**Mr. Jeff Eilenberger**, 2 Village Drive, Ledyard, noted that the Town was currently in Federal Court with the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation (MPTN) because they were looking to Annex up-to 5,000-acres in the Town of Ledyard. Therefore, he questioned whether the Mayor was aware that the Community Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion was communicating with the Tribe.

Councilor Brunelle noted that Mayor Allyn, III knew that the Committee has had this item on their Agenda for a long time; and that former Town Council Chairman Rodriguez was communicating with the Tribe and Chairman St. Vil attended a couple of meetings as well. She stated regardless of whether they were in litigation that she thought that they should still reach out to the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation (MPTN).

Councilor Parad questioned Mr. Eilenberger's concern with the Community Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion's interest in fostering communication with the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation (MPTN). Mr. Eilenberger questioned how long Councilor Parad has been a Ledyard Resident. Councilor Parad stated that she has lived in Ledyard about 12 – 13 years. Mr. Eilenberger explained that there was a lot of history regarding between the Town and the Tribe. He stated urged caution in working to be community oriented because that without realizing it, things may come-up or be discussed during a conversation. He stated because they were in litigation he wanted to make sure the Town's Executive Officer was aware of the Community Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion's intentions.

Councilor Parad stated at the Community Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion's October 15, 2025 meeting that she had reported that she reached out to the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe's Chief Medical Officer Dr. Vora about partnering with Ledyard regarding *Primary Care for All*. She stated that Dr. Vora replied stating that he was interested in helping Ledyard with their *Primary Care for All* initiative. However, she noted that this week she read in the Norwich Bulletin Newspaper an article about Hartford Healthcare and the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation has formed a partnership to build a brand new Healthcare Facility, that appeared to be the first of its kind. She stated there would be some overlap between traditional medicine and the Tribe's traditional medicine as well, noting there would be a room for Drum Circles, etc. She stated because she had not heard anything further from Dr. Vora that it may have been because of this Healthcare Facility.

Councilor Lamb stated while there was history on both sides that he believed that it was important to reach out and to build trust that may lead to some joint ventures, such as grant opportunities. He stated that there should be ways for their communities to come together and find win-win opportunities. Therefore, he stated that the Community

Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion should continue to work to foster communications with the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation.

**RESULT: CONTINUED**

**Next Meeting: 1/21/2026 6:30 p.m.**

3. Plan Event to Recognize Colonel William Ledyard and Commemorate the Battle of Groton Heights

Councilor Brunelle explained that former Community Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Member Councilor Barnes suggested the Town plan an event to Commemorate the town's namesake Colonel William Ledyard and the Battle of Groton Heights. She stated that the actual sword that Colonel William Ledyard was killed by was on display at the Bill Library in Groton, which was adjacent to the museum. She noted that Councilor Barnes spoke with Groton Library Director Ms. Wendy Connell about loaning Colonel Ledyard's Sword to Ledyard for a Ceremony. However, Ms. Connell stated that she did not believe that she could just relinquish this piece of historic artifact; but if Ledyard was doing some type of Ceremony that she thought that she may be able to bring the Sword in its case to the event. Councilor Brunelle stated because of the timing the Committee was not able to recognize Colonel William Ledyard at the 2025 Memorial Day Parade; however, they noting in the coming year that there would be a series of events for the Celebration of the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of their Country's Independence, and that there may be a way to tie this into those events.

Councilor Lamb stated that he attended the America 250 Planning Committee's December 9, 2025 meeting, noting that they requested the Lamb Family provide a Tractor and Wagon for the 2026 Memorial Day Parade. He suggested they use the Wagon for a display to Commemorate the town's namesake Colonel William Ledyard. He stated that he would reach out the Groton Bill Library to see if they could borrow Colonel Ledyard's Sword for the Wagon Display. He stated that perhaps they could also recognize Colonel Ledyard with some type of small ceremony on his birthday or during the 250 Celebration. He stated that he would try to reach out to decedents of Colonel William Ledyard that may be living in the area.

It was noted that Colonel Ledyard was born in Groton on December 6, 1738; and died at the age of 42 on September 6, 1781.

**RESULT: CONTINUED**

**Next Meeting: 1/21/2026 6:30 p.m.**

4. Black History Month Essay & Poster Contest (February)

Councilor Brunelle stated when Chairman St. Vil was serving on the Community Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion that he was the point person for the Black History Month Program. She stated that she would reach out to Chairman St. Vil to discuss the contact person for each of the schools relative to distributing the Contest Guidelines, noting that it was an Essay Contest for the Middle School and High School Students; and a Poster Contest for the Elementary School Students.. She stated in the past members of the community served as the Judges, noting that last year the following individuals served as the Judges: Library Commission Member Mr. Ralph Hightower, Police Sergeant Michael McKinney, Sergeant Matthew Andrade, Board of

Education Member Mary Harris, Town Councilor Gary St. Vil, and former Chairman Rodriguez.

Councilor Lamb stated when he was serving on the Board of Education and he saw the Black History Month Contest and thought that it would have been nice if they had a Special Joint Meeting between the Town Council and Board of Education to recognize the students. He stated that this would be another opportunity for the two bodies to work together.

Councilor Parad stated in past years there were some cash prizes that were paid by members of the Town Council. Councilor Brunelle stated that former Chairman Rodriguez and Chairman St. Vil paid for the cash prizes. Therefore, she stated the Committee was going to have to talk about how they wanted to handle the prizes. She suggested getting some sponsors from some of the local businesses to provide donations to support the prizes. Councilor Lamb stated if they were soliciting donations that anyone could donate toward the prizes, noting that if some members of the Town Council wanted to donate they could. Councilor Brunelle stated Councilor Lamb was correct.

**RESULT: CONTINUED**

**Next Meeting: 1/21/2026 6:30 p.m.**

5. Woman's History Month (March)
  - Linda C. Davis Woman of the Year Award

Councilor Lamb asked who received the award last year.

Administrative Assistant Roxanne Maher Mrs. Kathryn Strout was the recipient of the *First Linda C. Davis Woman of the Year Award*, noting that she was a dedicated volunteer and instrumental at the *Linda C. Davis Food Pantry*.

Councilor Brunelle stated because last year was the first year and they were short on time to get the initiative off the ground that some people just submitted names, and others submitted a short paragraph about the person they were nominating. She stated that they would formalize the process this year and ask that those submitting nominations write a short paragraph about the person; and why they thought they should be the recipient of the *Linda C. Davis Woman of the Year Award*.

Councilor Lamb questioned whether the nominations needed to be a living person; who would be the judges; and whether there was a criteria used to evaluate the nominations.

Councilor Brunelle stated that the Award was for a living person. She stated last year all of the nominations were sent to the members of the Community Relations Committee for DEI to rank each of the nominations. She stated that the Nominations would open in February; and that last year she and former Town Council Chairman Rodriguez provided the funding for the prize.

**RESULT: CONTINUED**

**Next Meeting: 1/21/2026 6:30 p.m.**

6. Jewish American/Asian Americans (May)

Councilor Parad stated that May is both Jewish American and Asian American Heritage Month. She noted the following Jewish events.

- Ms. Vivian Zoe, a child of Holocaust Survivors, spoke at the High School.
- Emissaries from Israel spoke at the High School's *More Than Words Club* about combating Antisemitism; and recognizing microaggressions.
- Bill Library will host an Event on Monday, January 12, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. at which Ms. Vivian Zoe, a child of Holocaust Survivors would be speaking She stated that folks need to register to attend the event.

Councilor Brunelle noted that there was a Holocaust Museum near by and that she would look into the location.

Councilor Lamb stated that he could reach out to the Asian American Community for suggestions to recognize their heritage in May.

Councilor Parad noted that it would be great to have members in their community step-up to launch events.

**RESULT: CONTINUED**

**Next Meeting: 1/21/2026 6:30 p.m.**

7. Foster Care Community (May)

Councilor Brunelle stated that she would see if she could find advocates for Foster Care to come to speak to the Committee.

Councilor Lamb stated it would be good to have a presentation from the State on Foster Care. He stated there may be empty nesters who were interested in Foster Care; noting that by having a presentation either to this Committee or to the Town Council that it could help folks make a decision as to whether they would like to participate in the Foster Care Program.

**RESULT: CONTINUED**

**Next Meeting: 1/21/2026 6:30 p.m.**

8. Identify various town venues to host "*Informal Conversations in the Park*" to engage residents in discussions regarding their concerns and their ideas for potential solutions.

Councilor Brunelle stated the Committee has used this item as an opportunity to bring the Community together to talk about ideas or concerns they had. She noted the following examples:

- July 20, 2022 - Park on East Drive to discuss vandalism to the park. This resulted in cleaning up the park, locking the gate at night, and regular Police Patrols.
- November 7, 2024 – Pickle Ball Courts

Councilor Lamb stated that they should develop a list of Focus Topics. He commented on the benefits of having face-to-face conversations; opposed to presentations or conversations on social media, noting on social media that some folks can be mean. He stated while he was serving on the Board of Education one of the Focus Topics he hosted was the exclusion of home schooled students from the Ledyard Sports Programs. He suggested the Community Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion brainstorm and develop a list of three Focus Items. He stated finding a venue in town was easy, noting the town had great parks such as the Nathan Lester House, Sawmill; etc. He stated that he was 1,000% behind making this happen and that he would provide some suggestions about two-weeks before their January 21, 2026 meeting for the Committee to review in preparation for their discussion.

Councilor Brunelle suggested a Focus Topic could be bringing the Ledyard Fair back, noting that she has heard a lot of residents who would like to see the Ledyard Fair return.

Councilor Lamb stated there was already an Exploratory Committee that has been working on the Ledyard Fair. He stated January 23, 2026 would be their *Kick-Off meeting to Bring Back the Ledyard Fair*". He stated everyone was welcome to attend the meeting.

**RESULT: CONTINUED**

**Next Meeting: 1/21/2026 6:30 p.m.**

9. Pride Pizza in the Park (June)

Councilor Brunelle stated they have hosted two-Pride Pizza In the Park Events, noting that last year they had a D.J., Chet's Italian Ice Cream Truck, face painting, balloons, etc. She stated that last year the Congregational Church also helped. She stated that she would like to get a Pizza Truck this year; and that she would be working on this Event.

Councilor Lamb stated that Electric Boat-General Dynamics has a number of Committees, noting that he believed they had a Pride Committee. He suggested Councilor Brunelle reach out to Electric Boat-General Dynamics because they had a large network and could bring Ledyard's Pride Pizza in the Park to the next level.

Councilor Brunelle stated that she would like Ledyard's Pride Pizza in the Park to be an Event that was open and welcoming to people in Ledyard and outside of Ledyard as well. However, she stated that she was not looking to make it huge. She noted that her husband worked at Electric Boat-General Dynamics and that she would ask him to get her a telephone number.

**RESULT: CONTINUED**

**Next Meeting: 1/21/2026 6:30 p.m.**

10. Native America History Month (October)

Councilor Brunelle stated that she hoped that they would have some conversations with the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation before October to discuss opportunities to work together to recognize Native American History Month.

Councilor Lamb noted that he would like to talk to some people that he knew to offer this opportunity to see if they would like to partner with them.

**RESULT: CONTINUED**

**Next Meeting: 1/21/2026 6:30 p.m.**

11. Farmers Market Booths to highlight town services

Councilor Brunelle stated in years past the Community Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion has used their Booths at the Farmers Market to introduce residents to things such as:

- Recycling Compost Program
- Sign up for the “*Notify Me*”

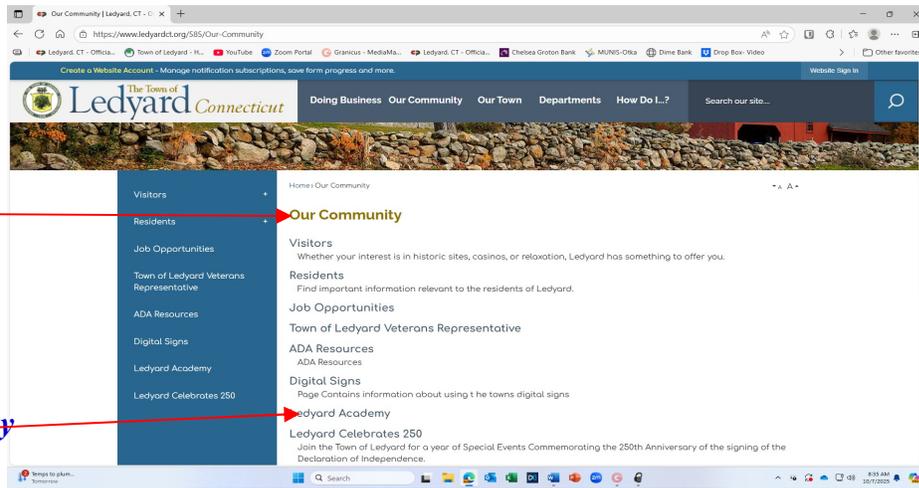
Councilor Brunelle stated that she typically tries to reserve a Booth twice during the Summer Market. She stated suggested the Committee discuss ideas for their Booths this summer.

Councilor Lamb suggested when Councilors attend their Liaison Assignments that they should encourage their Committees use a Booth at the Farmers Market to provide information to residents about what they do in town. Councilor Parad agreed with Councilor Lamb’s suggestion, noting that several Town Committees such as the Beautification Committee was already hosting their own Booth at the Farmers Market.

Councilor Parad went on to note that during this past year each of the Departments put together information to provide transparency on how their local government worked; and to help residents access the town services Departments provide. She suggested the Community Relations Committee use one of their Booths this summer to provide awareness of this resource. She also noted that they could let residents know about some of their initiatives and ask if they would like to help plan an Event.

Councilor Brunelle stated the presentations were attached to Legislative File on their Agenda and they were being uploaded to the Ledyard Academy link on the town’s website. She noted the *Ledyard Academy* link could be found by visiting the town’s website at [www.ledyardct.org](http://www.ledyardct.org); and clicking on the “*Our Community*” Tab and then clicking on the “*Ledyard Academy*”

*Our Community*



*Ledyard Academy*

Administrative Assistant Roxanne Maher explained that the Farmers Market provides an opportunity for non-profit organizations to host a Booth. However, she stated because the space fills up quickly that they need to contact the Farmers Marekt Committee early in the year to try to reserve a space.

**RESULT: CONTINUED** **Next Meeting: 1/21/2026 6:30 p.m.**

12. Coordinate and ~~Sponsor~~ *Support* Town Organizations such as:
- Linda C. Davis Food Pantry and
  - Citizens Helping Animals In Need (CHAIN)

Councilor Brunelle stated because the Community Relations Committee does not have a budget that they could not “*Sponsor*” Organizations, however, she stated that they could provide “*Support*” . She noted as an example that the Linda C. Davis Food Pantry collects food throughout the year; however, they may need more volunteers to work at the Food Pantry. She also suggested they could have organizations give a short presentation regarding the types of donations they need, their hours of operation, and how residents could volunteer and help.

Councilor Parad suggested Organizations provide a presentation at one of their meetings noting that it would be on video and that they could play the video in the future; or residents could watch the video/presentation at a later time.

**RESULT: CONTINUED** **Next Meeting: 1/21/2026 6:30 p.m.**

13. Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Crossover with Board of Education

Councilor Lamb stated the Board of Education had a Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee; and therefore, he thought that this Community Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion may have some opportunities to build a relationship and to do some joint events together with the Board of Education’s Committee. He suggested the first step would be for the two Committee Chairman to have a conversation regarding their initiatives to see if there were any opportunities that could be done jointly.

Councilor Brunelle stated that she would reach out to Board of Education Diversity & Inclusion Committee Chairman Mary Harris.

**RESULT: CONTINUED**

**Next Meeting: 1/21/2026 6:30 p.m.**

14. Homeless Hospitality Center in New London

Councilor Lamb stated that he attended a presentation at the Norwich Homeless Hospitality Center, explaining that these facilities help to provide a bridge to permanent housing for adults experiencing homelessness in Southeastern Connecticut by connecting them with state and other programs, etc. He stated he worked with an Organization in Massachusetts that started programs such as English as a second language, furniture bank, warming centers, and many others. He stated the New London Homeless Hospital Center had 44-beds; and he noted the Asset Limited Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE) Report stating that about 30% of their community was living on the edge and could find themselves in need of support and services. He suggested Ledyard develop a warming center, and homeless shelter to provide beds for individuals, stating that Ledyard should not continue to rely on New London for services. He stated that Councilor Thompson worked at the New London Homeless Hospitality Center; and that he was planning to tour the Facility.

Councilor Brunelle stated that the Committee would keep this item on their Agenda for Councilor Lamb to report back on his tour of the New London Homeless Hospitality Center.

**RESULT: CONTINUED**

**Next Meeting: 1/21/2026 6:30 p.m.**

15. National Immigrant Community (National Immigrant Heritage Month - June)

Councilor Lamb noted when he attended the Community Relations Committee for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion's May 21, 2025 meeting that talked about his involvement with the Immigrant Community and Newcomer Communities, noting that his wife Brazilian. He stated that he has been involved with the Brazil Baptist Church in New London, noting that he has seen the new people who come in bring energy to the churches that had older people that they have revitalized the community.

**RESULT: CONTINUED**

**Next Meeting: 1/21/2026 6:30 p.m.**

16. Organizations for those with Disabilities - Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) Month

Mr. Lamb stated he had been involved with the Handicap Community for many years, noting that he was on the Committee that started the Indoor Wheelchair Soccer Sport noting when he was working with United Cerebral Palsy (UCP); they had Connecticut Teams that would compete nationally. He stated that he sees a lack of services for those with disabilities; and

The need to break down the perception and stereotyping of those with disabilities. He stated that he would like to see what their community could do to provide visibility and advocate for individuals with disabilities.

Councilor Parad stated that Councilor Lamb had a long list of groups that he would like to celebrate. She suggested by tapping into those groups to champion their own causes that he may be able to elevate more communities.

Councilor Lamb stated that he would reach out the Regional Community to see what they could do.

Councilor Brunelle noted in 2023 she volunteered at “Mayor’s Day” in Providence, Rhode Island. She explained the event was open to the public, noting that many families attended. She stated that Providence provided bus transportation and a free lunch for the Senior Citizens to attend the event. She stated during the event the Mayor gave a speech regarding all the things that he had been working on during the year, which included programs to help the Seniors such as services, housing, etc. She noted residents had the opportunity to talk with the Mayor, and that everyone left the event happy. She stated that Ledyard had a Senior Citizens Center; and that she wanted to bring this up as a nice thing to do, noting that the Senior Citizen community was often overlooked.

**RESULT: CONTINUED**

**Next Meeting: 1/21/2026 6:30 p.m.**

17. Any other New Business proper to come before the Committee – None.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Brunelle moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Councilor Lamb.

**VOTE: 3 – 0 Approved and so declared.** The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

April Brunelle  
Committee Chairman  
Community Relations Committee



# TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard  
Highway  
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

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**File #:** 25-2642

**Agenda Date:** 1/23/2026

**Agenda #:** 1.

---

AGENDA REQUEST  
GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEM

**Subject:**

*Primary Care for All Americans- Framework*

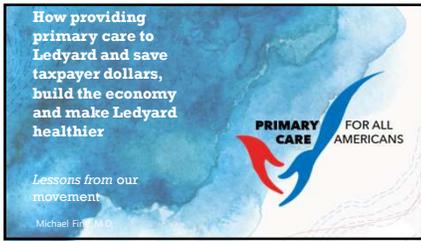
**Background:**

Dr. Michael Fine gave a Presentation regarding *Primary Care for All Americans* at the Town Council's September 10, 2025 meeting,

**Department Comment/Recommendation:**

(type text here)

**How providing primary care to Ledyard and save taxpayer dollars, build the economy and make Ledyard healthier**



**PRIMARY CARE FOR ALL AMERICANS**

*Lessons from our movement*

Michael Finn, M.D.

1

**Our Challenge: US Health Care is a hot mess**

- Life expectancy** 46<sup>th</sup> in the world
- Infant mortality** 50<sup>th</sup> in the world
- Health Disparities**
  - Life Expectancy: Black Americans 4.5 years shorter than white Americans, 1.5 years shorter than Asian Americans
  - Infant Mortality: Black Americans three times greater than white Americans

2

**And it's crazy expensive**

- \$5 trillion in 2023
  - ~10% of GDP
  - TWICE the average cost of other developed nations
  - House: \$76 per year
  - Individual: \$15,000 per person per year
  - Commercial insurance: \$9000 ppr/\$25,592 per family per year
- Communities**
  - \$150 million for every community of 10,000 people
  - The town budget for Schuette, MI population about 10,000 was \$45.8 million in 2025
  - Healthcare: \$100 million**
  - The 2026-2027 budget was \$70 million

3

**The primary care triple superpower**

**Primary care improves health, reduces disparities and lowers costs when everyone has it**

- By giving people an affordable option when they are sick (instead of the emergency room).
- By delivering effective prevention.
- By helping people with chronic disease get the treatments and prevention they need.

4

**Too few Americans have primary care**

**No more than 43 percent of the US population has a meaningful longitudinal primary care relationship**

*Only 65.7 percent of Medicare beneficiaries had a PCP visit within the last year (2019)*



1. [http://www.aacap.org/galleries/HealthPolicy/HealthPolicy2021/2021\\_2022\\_agenda\\_Artwork\\_Access.pdf](http://www.aacap.org/galleries/HealthPolicy/HealthPolicy2021/2021_2022_agenda_Artwork_Access.pdf)  
 2. Fitzpatrick RL, Chao MC. Tobacco Use in Primary Care in High-income countries: The Role of Clinicians. *Current smoking*. 2021. Published March 2022.  
 3. Rhee SE, Chao YC, Park AJ, et al. Trends in outpatient care for Medicare beneficiaries and implications for primary care. *Ann Intern Med*. 2021;174(12):1698-1699.

5

**Primary care is affordable – it costs no more than other essential services cities and towns provide for their own residents**

- About 3.9 percent of the total health care spend
  - \$185 per person per year**
  - (The cost for advanced patient-focused team-supported primary care is likely \$1000-1200 per person per year)
- Similar to the costs of other services cities and towns provide for all their residents:
  - Police and fire protection – about **\$525** per person per year
  - Water and sewer – **\$400** per person per year
  - Roads – **\$622** per person per year
  - Elementary and secondary education – **\$2809** per person (not per student) per year

6

**What can Ledyard do?**



- Study and report on Ledyard's primary care resources yearly
- Help our students become the primary care clinicians of the future
- Create local scholarships with obligations for local practice
- Redo the purchase of health insurance for public employees
- Fund primary care for the uninsured

7

**How can Ledyard get started?**

- Start a local workgroup
- We'll help!



8

**Primary Care for All Americans**

[www.primarycareforallamericans.org](http://www.primarycareforallamericans.org)

Join us!  
Volunteer!



9



10

## Roxanne Maher

---

**From:** Roxanne Maher  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 20, 2025 9:29 AM  
**To:** Town Council Group  
**Subject:** FW: Community outreach/hope house

---

**From:** Adrienne L. Parad <AdrienneP@ledyardct.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 19, 2025 11:47 AM  
**To:** Roxanne Maher <council@ledyardct.org>  
**Subject:** Community outreach/hope house

I have been in contact with Annette of the Hope House and she invited me for a tour of the facility. I am scheduled for 9/30/25 at 10:00AM.

I would like to extend the invitation to any council members and/or the Mayor to join me in this community outreach discussion.

Thank you,

Adrienne Parad

**Per Annette, this is her rationale:**

### **What We Need from the Members of Government of the Town of Ledyard**

We welcome the opportunity to meet with you and encourage you to invite anyone who may have an interest in our work. Our goals for building this relationship are twofold:

1. **Awareness & Collaboration** – We want you to have a clear understanding of who we are, the services we provide, and how these services can be utilized to better support the residents of Ledyard.
2. **Partnership & Funding Opportunities** – We hope to explore ways to partner with the Town, particularly in seeking financial assistance through available resources such as opioid settlement funding or cannabis revenue allocations.

By working together, we can strengthen the community response to recovery, prevention, and support services in Ledyard.

## Roxanne Maher

---

**From:** Roxanne Maher  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 18, 2025 11:11 AM  
**To:** Town Council Group  
**Cc:** Roxanne Maher  
**Subject:** FW: Opportunity for MPTN and Ledyard partnership for health initiatives

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Adrienne L. Parad <AdrienneP@ledyardct.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 18, 2025 10:03 AM  
**To:** Setu K Vora <svora@mptn-nsn.gov>  
**Cc:** Roxanne Maher <council@ledyardct.org>  
**Subject:** Opportunity for MPTN and Ledyard partnership for health initiatives

Good morning Dr. Vora,

The Town Council committee on Community Relations and DEI met last night and we discussed reaching out to you. The MPTN has a wonderful health care program and we would love to learn more about how you ensure that your whole community is cared for. We had a great presentation by Dr. Michael Fine at the last full Town Council meeting and the community is now engaged in the research and planning required to institute a progressive plan to make a “Primary Care for all Americans” pilot in Ledyard. Would this be something that you would consider partnering with us to do? We are always looking for more ways to make our communities more cohesive!

Thank you for your consideration,  
Adrienne Parad

Sent from my iPhone

## Roxanne Maher

---

**From:** Roxanne Maher  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 27, 2025 12:22 PM  
**To:** Town Council Group  
**Cc:** Roxanne Maher  
**Subject:** FW: Framework for Ledyard

---

**From:** Vora, Setu K <svora@mptn-nsn.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 27, 2025 7:16 AM  
**To:** Adrienne L. Parad <AdrienneP@ledyardct.org>; Roxanne Maher <council@ledyardct.org>  
**Subject:** Re: Framework for Ledyard

Good morning Dr. Parad-  
Happy to hear from you.  
Let me know how I may assist.  
Thanks  
Setu

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From:** Adrienne L. Parad <[AdrienneP@ledyardct.org](mailto:AdrienneP@ledyardct.org)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 27, 2025 6:38:16 AM  
**To:** Vora, Setu K <[svora@mptn-nsn.gov](mailto:svora@mptn-nsn.gov)>; Roxanne Maher <[council@ledyardct.org](mailto:council@ledyardct.org)>  
**Subject:** Framework for Ledyard

[This email originated **outside of your network**. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.]

Dr. Vora,

We are trying to incorporate the principals of community building and equity through the primary care for all Americans framework. Ashtabula, OH was able to start by ensuring all town employees had access to a primary care physician, and thus it saved 15-20% of total health care costs by reducing emergency visits and preventive measures. I'll attach a policy statement highlighting the importance of primary care and an equitable approach.

[aafp.org](http://aafp.org)

Here is a link to our most recent Town Council meeting where we had a guest speaker, Dr. Michael Fine, discuss strategies for incorporating this in our local community. You can skip ahead to about 17:30 to watch and it's less than 15 minutes long.

[granicus.com](http://granicus.com)

We have some ambitious ideas, but I think it's something we can do. I look forward to hearing your ideas about it and how we can learn from and partner with the MPTN on this!

Thank you for circling back,  
Adrienne

Sent from my iPhone

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# TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard  
Highway  
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

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**File #:** 22-107

**Agenda Date:** 1/23/2026

**Agenda #:** 2.

---

AGENDA REQUEST  
GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEM

**Subject:**

Develop a relationship with the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Council to help foster communication and mutual points of interest.

**Background:**



# TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard  
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**File #:** 25-1582

**Agenda Date:** 1/23/2026

**Agenda #:** 3.

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AGENDA REQUEST  
GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEM

**Subject:**

Recognition of Colonel William Ledyard and Commemorate the Battle of Groton Heights.

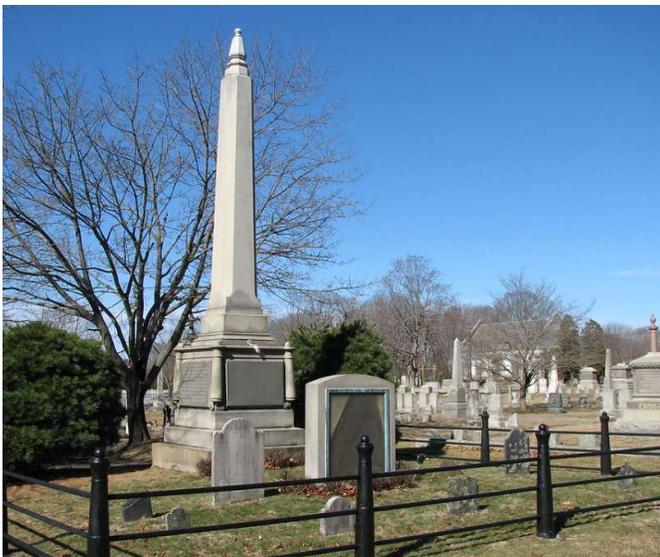
**Background:**

Colonel William Ledyard was born on December 6, 1738 in Groton; and died at the age of 42 on September 6, 1781 during *The Battle of Groton Heights*.

The Town was named after Colonel William Ledyard was Revolutionary War Patriot. who died in the defense of Fort Griswold against the British in *The Battle of Groton Heights*, Also, two Black Soldiers were also killed, one who was defending Colonel Ledyard, and one who killed the commander of the British Troops as he was coming over the wall.

Colonel Ledyard's Memorial Gravesite is in the Colonel Ledyard Cemetery on Mitchell Street, Groton; and his sword was in the Groton Library.

Currently the Town does not have any events to recognize the man who was their town's namesake.



**Department Comment/Recommendation:**  
(type text here)



# TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard  
Highway  
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

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**File #:** 25-2839

**Agenda Date:** 1/23/2026

**Agenda #:** 4.

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AGENDA REQUEST  
GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEM

**Subject:**

Discussion and possible action regarding the 2026 Black History Month Program (February)

**Background:**

(type text here)

**Department Comment/Recommendation:**

(type text here)



# TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard  
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Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

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**File #:** 25-2840

**Agenda Date:** 1/23/2026

**Agenda #:** 5.

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AGENDA REQUEST  
GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEM

**Subject:**

Discussion and possible action regarding Woman's History Month (March)

- Linda C. Davis Woman of the Year Award

**Background:**

(type text here)

**Department Comment/Recommendation:**

(type text here)



# TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard  
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**File #:** 25-2640

**Agenda Date:** 1/23/2026

**Agenda #:** 6.

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AGENDA REQUEST  
GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEM

**Subject:**

Jewish Americans/Asian Americans (May)

**Background:**

(type text here)

**Department Comment/Recommendation:**

(type text here)



# TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard  
Highway  
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

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**File #:** 25-2841

**Agenda Date:** 1/23/2026

**Agenda #:** 7.

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AGENDA REQUEST  
GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEM

**Subject:**

Discuss the Foster Care Community.

**Background:**

(type text here)

**Department Comment/Recommendation:**

(type text here)



# TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard  
Highway  
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

---

**File #:** 22-106

**Agenda Date:** 1/23/2026

**Agenda #:** 8.

---

AGENDA REQUEST  
GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEM

**Subject:**

Discussion and possible action to identify various town venues to host “*Informal Conversations in the Park*” to engage residents in discussions regarding their concerns and their ideas for potential solutions.

**Background:**

(type text here)

**Department Comment/Recommendation:**



# TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard  
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**File #:** 25-2842

**Agenda Date:** 1/23/2026

**Agenda #:** 9.

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AGENDA REQUEST  
GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEM

**Subject:**

Discussion regarding the Pride Pizza in the Park (June)

**Background:**

(type text here)

**Department Comment/Recommendation:**

(type text here)



# TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard  
Highway  
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

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**File #:** 25-2843

**Agenda Date:** 1/23/2026

**Agenda #:** 10.

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AGENDA REQUEST  
GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEM

**Subject:**

Native America History Month (October)

**Background:**

(type text here)

**Department Comment/Recommendation:**

(type text here)



# TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard  
Highway  
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

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**File #:** 25-2844

**Agenda Date:** 1/23/2026

**Agenda #:** 11.

---

AGENDA REQUEST  
GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEM

**Subject:**

Farmers Market Booths to highlight town services.

**Background:**

(type text here)

**Department Comment/Recommendation:**

(type text here)



# TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard  
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**File #:** 25-2845

**Agenda Date:** 1/23/2026

**Agenda #:** 12.

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AGENDA REQUEST  
GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEM

**Subject:**

Coordinate and Support Town Organizations such as:

- Linda C. Davis Food Pantry
- Citizens Helping Animals in Need (CHAIN)

**Background:**

(type text here)

**Department Comment/Recommendation:**

(type text here)



# TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard  
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**File #:** 26-0078

**Agenda Date:** 1/23/2026

**Agenda #:** 13.

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AGENDA REQUEST  
GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEM

**Subject:**

**Background:**  
(type text here)

**Department Comment/Recommendation:**  
(type text here)



# TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard  
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Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

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**File #:** 26-0081

**Agenda Date:** 1/23/2026

**Agenda #:** 14.

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AGENDA REQUEST  
GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEM

**Subject:**

Organizations for those with Disabilities - Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) Month

**Background:**

(type text here)

**Department Comment/Recommendation:**

(type text here)



# TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard  
Highway  
Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

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**File #:** 26-0079

**Agenda Date:** 1/23/2026

**Agenda #:** 15.

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AGENDA REQUEST  
GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEM

**Subject:**

Homeless Hospitality Center in New London

**Background:**

(type text here)

**Department Comment/Recommendation:**

(type text here)



# TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard  
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Ledyard, CT 06339-1511

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**File #:** 26-0080

**Agenda Date:** 1/23/2026

**Agenda #:** 16.

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AGENDA REQUEST  
GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEM

**Subject:**

National Immigrant Community (National Immigrant Heritage Month - June)

**Background:**

(type text here)

**Department Comment/Recommendation:**

(type text here)