# BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

## EDUCATION, WORKFORCE, YOUTH DEVELOPMENT & COMMUNITY SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE

There was a meeting of the above referenced subcommittee held on Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in a hybrid meeting style. The in-person meeting location was Bloomfield Town Hall – Council Chambers, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT, and the virtual location was via Zoom.

Committee members present were: *In-Person*— Councilor Michael Oliver; and *via Zoom*—Deputy Mayor Lloyd; Councilors Shamar Mahon & Elizabeth Waterhouse

Committee members absent were: Councilor Darrell Goodwin

Also present were:

- **Town Council**: *In-Person*—Mayor Anthony Harrington
- **Town Staff:** *In-Person*—Luz Cora-Small, Assistant Director of Senior Services; Camilla Hillian, Director of Social & Youth Services; Dave Melesko, Director of Park, Recreation & Leisure Services; Warren Plumber, Director of Information, Technology and Innovation; Latonia Tabb, Clerk of Council; and *via Zoom*— Alvin D. Schwapp, Jr., Town Manager
- **Guests**: *In-Person*—from MakerspaceCT: Mark Colbert and David Weinholtz

The meeting was called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Councilor Oliver stated that due to lack of quorum at the start of the meeting, New Business would be moved first on the agenda.

**New Business**

*MakerspaceCT Trades Program*

Mr. Mark Colbert of MakerspaceCT presented to the subcommittee on the mission of MakerSpaceCT, and potential collaboration opportunities with the Town of Bloomfield.

Mr. Schwapp inquired if MakerspaceCT has established relationships with other municipalities. Mr. Colbert reported that they've worked with East Hartford, Wethersfield, and Hartford. He noted that they've worked with Bloomfield before, but have not brought the specific program that he shared in his presentation to any town yet.

Mr. Colbert reported on the prior collaboration between MakerspaceCT and the Town through the trades program.

Councilor Mahon inquired as to the types of entities MakerspaceCT collaborates. Mr. Colbert reported that they generally work with private agencies through grants, although they have also worked with Windsor Board of Education on teacher development.

There was a brief discussion about future funding.

Deputy Mayor Lloyd discussed her support for the program.

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## Old Business

*MakerspaceCT Robotics*

Councilor Oliver moved that MakerspaceCT Robotics be moved to Town Council for discussion. It was seconded by Deputy Mayor Lloyd and Councilor Waterhouse.

Councilor Mahon reported that he thinks it is a good program, and shared his hesitation to vote on the item without knowing about future funding. He inquired about conversations with the Board of Education (BOE) and what the collaboration has looked like. Councilor Oliver noted that they have money put aside from the trades program to fund the robotics program for this year. There was further discussion regarding funding and sustainability.

VOTE: AYE: C. Lloyd, E. Waterhouse, M. Oliver
NAY: S. Mahon
ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed 3-1-0.

## New Business (continued)

*Report from Town Staff*

Social & Youth Services

Ms. Hillian noted it was Social Worker Month and Women's History Month. Updates from Social & Youth Services included: working on heating and utility assistance for residents; concern regarding the cost of oil and affordability for residents; renter's rebate program beginning April 1; food distribution on 4/16 with Feed the Children, Niagara Cares, and the Town of Bloomfield; free counseling services for Bloomfield youth; Capital Workforce Partners summer youth employment application submission, with the goal to employ 44 youth; Youth Summit on 4/25 with Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services and Windsor Youth Services; and a new life-skills group for young adults.

Senior Services

Ms. Cora-Small highlighted Senior Services events, including: AARP tax services; successful pre-Valentine's Day breakfast, Flower Show trip, UConn basketball trip, Playhouse on Park trip, painting night; upcoming St. Patrick's Day breakfast, balance class sponsored by Connecticut Community Cares, AARP smart driving course; and ongoing caregiver and bereavement support group. The warming center was open eight days in February and two days in March.

Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services

Mr. Melesko provided Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services updates, including: an upcoming IWWC hearing for Rockwell Park; completed game room at 330 Park Ave., with updated youth lounge; completed summer concert series schedule; ongoing Food Truck Festival meetings; ongoing Nature Lecture Series in collaboration with Traprock Ridge Land Trust; updating emergency procedures and facility coordination in conjunction with BVA and Facilities Department, with upcoming drill scheduled during summer camp program; ongoing meetings with both Fire Districts for their 100th anniversary

celebrations; beginning of pool preparation; a variety of new classes, including hip-hop dance and cooking classes; summer staff hiring; and upcoming Eggstravaganza program.

**Approval of Minutes – February 10, 2026**

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Lloyd, seconded by Councilor Waterhouse, and voted unanimously to approve the 2/10/26 meeting minutes as written.

**Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**Adjournment**

It was moved by Councilor Waterhouse, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lloyd, and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

*Minutes submitted by Lynn Weisel, Recording Secretary, based on the YouTube Video Recording.*

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