YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION
EAST GRANBY, CONNECTICUT

MINUTES
December 15, 2025

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
A regular meeting of the East Granby Youth Services Commission was held Monday, November 17, 2025, at the East Granby Town Hall. Robert Ravens-Seger called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Members also present were Evan Hanks, Sara Kleinman, Art Reardon, Swastika Gupta and Bonnie Jones. Alicia Van Neil (Program Coordinator) was also present.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
None.

3. **CORRESPONDENCE**
A Van Neil received a letter from Project Grad asking for a donation.

4. **APPROVE MINUTES**
S Kleinman made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2025, meeting. E Hanks seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried. Super duper ding dong.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

A/B. Programming/Prevention-
A Van Neil reported that they went into the Middle School last week for a check-in. The topic was "how successful was your semester?" She also met with the principals of Allgrove and Seymour and they decided permission slips are no longer necessary. There will be additional info gathered at the time of program registration instead.

C. High School and Middle School Updates- E Hanks did not have an update. S Gupta met with Mr. Phelan and he mentioned there has been some inappropriate use of social media by some middle school students, as well as some poor verbal behavior. The Middle School Student Government Top Turkey event went well. Over 730 items were collected for the food pantry.

D. YAC Update- E Hanks reported that a group of the HS YAC students met with Mr. DeMelo to work on a new video for the Portrait of a Graduate. The HS group held their Recycle-A-Gift event and it went well. Jennifer Kovaleski reported that she has stepped down as the HS facilitator. A Van Neil will be conducting meetings with each high school member in January to decide how to proceed with the group for the remainder of this year. A Van Neil mentioned that the high school students who are helping with the Letters to Santa will be meeting to work on them. A Van Neil also reported on the MS YAC. Some students helped with the Recycle-A-Gift program and J Kovaleski said they did a great job. Both the HS and MS groups are holding the Gingerbread House making competition on Friday. There are 27 teams of 2-4 students each and there will be multiple judges who are staff members. Members of both YAC groups helped at the town tree lighting and setting up the luminaries. E Hanks reported that members went to Seymour last week for Mentorship and it went

very well. They also started sending home a newsletter to parents discussing the topic of the meetings to enable parents to continue conversations at home.

E. JRB Update- A Reardon reported that there will be a meeting with the new Director of Student Support Services tomorrow. Justine from FVHD and B Jones are holding resilience grows here sessions with students going through the JRB process. Topics include Conflict Resolution and Stress Management. The JRB quarterly meeting will be held in January.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **Funding request from Project Grad-**

Motion: A Reardon made a motion to donate $450 to Project Grad for 2026's event. B Jones seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

B. Officer Elections - E Hanks is willing to be vice-chair again. A Van Neil nominated B Jones for chairperson. B Jones accepted.

Motion: R Ravens-Seger made a motion to appoint Bonnie Jones as chairperson to the Youth Services Commission for 2026. E Hanks seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

Motion: R Ravens-Seger made a motion to re-appoint Evan Hanks as vice-chairperson to the Youth Services Commission for 2026. A Reardon seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

C. Member Recruitment - A Van Neil does have a potential new member and she will keep the committee updated.

D. Needs Assessment - A Van Neil reported that we can use some of the money from the state opioid prevention funds to hold the assessment. These funds can be used because some of the questions on the assessment are about substance use/misuse. A Van Neil believes the assessment will roll out in February at the High School after administrators review the questions. Data will be used during the summer planning months for the 26-27 school year. It will be nice to capture data from the graduating seniors as a comparison since they took the last assessment 4 years ago.

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

R Ravens-Seger took this time to talk to the group about being ready to step down and hand off the chairperson duties. He mentioned it was good to hold this role while his son was in school. A Van Neil thanked Bob for his time and energy through the 12 years of being on the committee.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by E Hanks and seconded by S Kleinman to adjourn the meeting at 7:06pm. Votes were unanimous. Motion carried with one last Super Duper Ding Dong.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Kovaleski
Youth Services Commission Clerk