

West Hartford Prevention Council

Regular Meeting

Thursday, May 8, 5:00 p.m.

West Hartford Town Hall, Room 314 Council Chambers

AGENDA

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes from April 2025
4. New Business
 - Town Budget
 - 2026 Priorities
5. Standing Reports
 - a. Prevention
 - b. Social Services
 - c. Public Health
 - d. Police
 - e. WHPS
 - f. YSB(The Bridge)
6. Public Comment
7. Adjournment

Next meeting Thursday June 12, 2025 at 5:00pm , Room 314. Anyone requiring auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or modification of policies or procedures to participate in a meeting, services, program or activity of the Town of West Hartford, should contact Suzanne Oslander, ADA Coordinator, at suzanneO@westhartfordct.gov or 860-561-7580 as soon as possible, preferably seven days beforehand.

Meeting Minutes

Roll Call	
<u>Present:</u> Carl Shields, Chair Howard Dashefsky, Vice Chair Megan Polte, Board Member Danielle Guttman-Lapin, Board Member Bob Macca, Board Member Katie Bond, Board Member Heather Bohn Board Member Gretchen Levitz, Prevention Coordinator, West Hartford Gabby Downey, Prevention Partnership Kelly Waterhouse, Social Services Hall Student Representative BG, AV Conard Student Representative EJ, Susan Walsh, West Hartford Bloomfield Health District Timothy Reardon, West Hartford Police Department Michael Eden, West Hartford Police Department Win Columbano, West Hartford Public Schools Hall High School Tor Fisk, West Hartford Public Schools – Conard High School <u>Not present:</u> Nordia Nappier, Board Member Jessica Evans, Board Member Jason Gagnon, West Hartford Public Schools Board of Education	
Approval of Meeting Minutes	
a. Approval of April 2025 meeting minutes	
New Business	
Town Budget • Opioid/Dispensary funds incorporated in newly proposed Town Budget for upcoming fiscal year 2026 Priorities • Opportunity to do prevention work with continued opioid/dispensary funds expected • 2025-2026 Proposal Reports expected from Chair of Prevention Council this Fall 2025 • Council members are asked to send recommendations & ideas to Council Chair Carl Shields • Suggestion for Prevention Council to call a special meeting on strategic plan to present to Town Council • June 2025 Prevention Council meeting will be held as a Special Meeting	
Standing Reports	
Prevention: Gretchen Levitz With participation of Elevate WeHa student rep	• May 2025 Mental Health Month

	• (4) NEW PHACTT Campaigns to be revealed at Celebrate West Hartford • Prevention Fair will be combined with September 2025 Community Preparedness Day • YLA 2025 Academy- in the works for Fall 2025 • Elevate WeHa Events- Partnership with RiseUp for the Arts to promote substance free events around town (ex. Community mural, Community Block Party, Community Clean Up) • QPR MYC Trainings at Conard/Hall week of May 19th
Social Services: Kelly Waterhouse	• Working to universalize diversion practices across the state (policy, paperwork, resources) • JRB name is changing • Wednesday May 14th , Senior Day at Elmwood Community Center • ADA Community Conversation- Monday May 11 7-8 PM Town Hall Auditorium & Tuesday May 20 12:30-1:30 PM Room 314 • WeAreCT - About Us CT DMHAS
Bloomfield/ West Hartford Health District: Susan Walsh	• Additional community presentations at request (ex. Naloxone trainings, QPR, Youth Mental Health First Aid Immunizations etc.) • May 14, West Hartford Senior Day • (2) free diabetes workshops which start on April 23 – they're 2 hours per week for 7 weeks. ASL Interpreters for evening sessions • Wellness Screenings Offered • Childhood & Adult Vaccinations • Free Naloxone & Fentanyl test strips for community members
West Hartford Police: High School Officer Reardon Middle School Officer Eden	• Tuesday May 20th Public Safety Event at Conard • Thursday May 29 , Public Safety Event at Hall
WHPS: Katie Bond, Winn Columbano & Tor Fiske	• Admin teams looking to visit schools in the area that have different vape detectors, will price out & determine effectiveness

	• Hall hosted Elevate Weha/ Rise Up mural this week, mural unveiling on Friday May 30th • Middle School Counselors instruct students on where to find Anonymous Alerts through Chromebook since phones are not allowed • Middle School Counselor position cut for the upcoming 2025-2026 academic year
The Bridge: Meg Polte	• Bridge Staff attended Love146 Training • Elevate/SMART groups continue at Hall & Community Center. Working with staff at schools to finetune process for upcoming school year (during lunch waves, marketing tools/QR codes/videos) • Teen Night continues with RiseUp Artist on site with community mural (Friday May 30, 7-10 PM, Elmwood Community Center) • Looking to start postvention committee with help from Amplify Staff (Training Day & Action Day)
Student Representatives Hall & Conard	• Students report increase in vaping, fake ID's, ZYN's & closed bathrooms around school, QR code obstructed/ removed in bathrooms • Admin reports that anonymous alerts continue 24/7
Public Comment	No comment
Adjournment at 6:00 PM	

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Please note that this will be considered a Special Meeting.