

## Human Relations Commission Meeting Minutes

March 5, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. Present: David O'Connor, Sridhar Kadaba, and Sherri Tanguay.

### 1. Approval of Minutes November 10, 2025

The minutes were approved unanimously.

The Commission discussed the vacancies and procedure to appoint new members.

### 2. Committee Reports:

#### a. Nondiscrimination in Employment Report - Sherri Tanguay, Director of Human Resources

Ms. Tanguay presented the latest recruitment report from July 1, 2025 to March 1, 2026. She spoke about the recruiting process and promotions. The Commission briefly discussed the job categories, recruiting strategies and new positions. Mr. Kadaba asked about strategies to reduce the turnover rate in some of the job categories. Ms. Tanguay explained that they conduct exit interviews and noted that there is a high turnover rate for police dispatcher jobs. She noted that an increase to the hourly pay rate and flexible schedule solved the issue of turnover for the part-time custodian job category. There was discussion on the need for affordable housing to support the workforce, including restaurant workers and others who are priced out of the market.

### 3. Martin Luther King Report - David O'Connor

Mr. O'Connor noted that the Glastonbury Friends of Housing and the Glastonbury MLK Community Initiative will host a conversation on affordable housing. The event will take place on March 30 at 5:30 p.m. at the Riverfront Community Center with Connecticut Public's housing reporter, Abigail Brone, moderating, and guest speakers, including Glastonbury Housing Authority's Executive Director, Neil Griffin.

### 4. Housing Authority Report- Neil Griffin, Executive Director

Mr. O'Connor distributed the report and read out portions of the update:

1. The Nye Road housing development project is anticipated to start in April/May 2026. GHA worked with the Department of Housing to identify a solution to fill the financing gap that resulted from the most recent state prevailing wage increase to allow the project to move forward.
2. The HUD funding for the HCV program, which includes the funding for the "tenant based" vouchers and funding for the "project based" vouchers that subsidize Welles Village, has been in shortfall. GHA has been working with HUD to seek "shortfall

funding” to help satisfy the anticipated full funding needs. GHA is not able to lease any additional vouchers while in shortfall, including for vouchers that “move-out.” It is a common issue across the country and GHA is not alone with this concern.

During 2025, HUD operated under the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025 (H.R. 1968), enacted in March 2025, which funded Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV) at approximately FY 2024 levels, raising concerns about funding shortfalls due to rising rent costs. While the bill provided a \$3.65 billion increase in tenant-based rental assistance, it was projected by some analysts to be insufficient, potentially leading to a loss of 32,000 to 141,000+ vouchers. GHA has been able to fully fund its current tenant-based voucher obligations and is monitoring its voucher HAP costs in 2026. However, GHA has already seen a reduction in voucher utilization over the last two years. For April 2024 GHA had 33 of its 37 authorized tenant-based vouchers leased and more recently has 28 leased.

This is an indicator of the trend that is anticipated over the next fiscal year with the current federal appropriations funding.

**5. Old business. *None.***

**6. New business. *None.***

**7. Adjournment**

The Commission discussed moving future meetings to Meeting Room A in Town Hall.

The meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nadya Yuskaev  
Recording Secretary