

Daniel A. Micari, Commissioner, Chairperson
Barbara Bajurny, Commissioner
Gloria Ewings, Commissioner
Ruth Ann Graime, Commissioner, Secretary
Joseph Krolkowski, Commissioner
Deborah Reed, Commissioner
Diane Salmoiraghi, Commissioner
Susan Tyler, City Council Liaison



**Commission for Persons with Disabilities
Bristol, CT 06010**

**Meeting Agenda
May 13, 2026**

7:00 PM – City Hall, 3rd Floor Meeting Room 3-1 and Virtual Format

Our Mission

To promote inclusion and improve the quality of life for people in Bristol with a disability, by providing a network of partnerships with local resources that foster self-sufficiency, dignity, and respect.

Reasonable Accommodation Statement

The Bristol Commission for Persons with Disabilities is committed to equal access to, and participation in, all meetings and Commission-sponsored programs and events. Individuals who require an accommodation in order to fully participate, including physical access, communication assistance, or other special need, should contact Daniel A. Micari at damicari@yahoo.com, at least seven business days prior to the scheduled meeting, program, or event.

Present:

Absent:

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes: April 8, 2026

Presentation: Tracey Beland, Educator, Bristol Central High School
Topic: Bristol Community Vocational Program

New/Current Business

*Chairman Micari: Regarding his attendance at a Dementia Friendly Community (DFC) Session held at City Hall on May 12, facilitated by Lynn Litwinczyk of Bristol Hospital.

*Commissioners Reed and Bajurny: Update on Disability Awareness Forum, including confirmed speakers and demonstration of assistive technology and devices.

Old Business

None

Correspondence

***From Chairman Micari to Erin Spaulding:** On behalf of the Bristol Commission for Persons with Disabilities, I thank you for speaking at our Commission meeting. Your presentation on Achilles International Connecticut was most interesting and informative, regarding its history, mission and service delivery in Connecticut, nationally and worldwide. You especially underscored Achilles' message that Disability Does Not Define You. Thank you also for participating in a lively Q&A session that addressed personal questions about Achilles' assistance locally. I look forward to our continued collaboration to support individuals of all abilities.

***Response from Erin Spaulding:** Thank you for the opportunity to present at the Bristol Commission for Persons with Disabilities. I appreciated the thoughtful discussion and the sharing of ideas on ASL education and accessibility in our community. I also thank Mayor Zoppo-Sassu for participating in the discussion regarding accessibility and public safety, fire alarm accessibility, and the Registry with police and fire departments. I was not previously aware of that registry. Thank you again for the important work the Commission does for our community.

***From Chairman Micari regarding smoke detector installation:** I am pleased to report that the first Smoke/CO detector installation was accomplished at Kimberly Walker's residence. Commissioner Barbara Bajurny, acting as interpreter and I, accompanied Alex North, of North Electrical LLC, who assessed installation requirements at Kimberly's residence and installed four detectors in all necessary home locations. Thanks to Chief Hart for his Grant acquisition of the safety devices and City Councilor Sue Tyler for identifying North Electrical as our installation vendor. Finally, I thank Mr. North for his expertise and compassionate interaction with Kimberly in answering her concerns and questions, and for expressing his commitment to future installations in homes identified by the Commission. It is indeed gratifying to see the initiation of our longstanding safety project.

Public Participation

Motion to adjourn:

Meeting adjourned:

Next meeting: June 10, 2025 at 7:00 PM City Hall, 3rd Floor Meeting Room 3-1

Presentation: TBD

Submitted by

Ruth Ann Graime, Secretary

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://bristolct-gov.zoom.us/j/88512009314?pwd=cDdReHV2VWt3eVE2SnYySFhMeWtvdz09>

Passcode: 12345

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Present: Micari, Bajurny, Ewings, Graime, Krolkowski, Reed, Salmoiraghi, Tyler
Absent: None

Call to order: 7:00 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes: March 11, 2025 (Krolkowski/Bajurny, passed)

Presentation: Erin Spaulding, Director, Achilles International Connecticut
Erin oversees the CT chapter of this global nonprofit with a mission to provide athletic programs and social connection for all abilities and skill levels. Trained volunteers (300 in 66 chapters around the world) are paired with athletes, partnering to set and accomplish goals together. The Hartford chapter, including Farmington, Cheshire, and Southington, holds a Veterans program as well. After an Intake procedure, a discussion ensues regarding how to meet the individual's specific needs, particularly in cases of "invisible" disabilities. Commissioners informed Erin of the annual Health Fair at the Senior Center and the accessible Nature Trail at Barnes Nature Center.

New/Current Business

- *Chairman Micari thanked Councilor Tyler for arranging with North Electrical to accomplish the smoke detector installation. He also will thank the company directly for their efforts. Commissioner Bajurny is due for the next installation.
- *Chairman Micari announced Deaf Awareness Night at Yard Goats Stadium on April 16, 7:00 PM
- *Update on the Disability Awareness Forum on Saturday October 17, 1:00-3:00 at the Bristol Public Library: Due to the limited time frame, Blindness and Deafness will be the focus. Commissioners Reed and Bajurny will arrange programming on the spectrum of vision and hearing loss, use of devices and technology, and community challenges. Scott Stanton agreed to assist with library coordination. Further discussion at May meeting.
- *Chairman Micari discussed an incident at Bristol Hospital relating to transportation for a patient after discharge. He reinforced that every patient is entitled to transportation from hospital to home regardless of disability.

Old Business

None

Correspondence

No new correspondence

Public Participation

Several individuals suggested particular equipment and material to include in the Forum. They will bring more information to the next meeting.

Motion to adjourn: Krolikowski/Graime, passed **Meeting adjourned:** 8:30 PM

Next meeting: May 13, 2026 at 7:00 PM

City Hall, 3rd Floor Meeting Room 3-1

Presentation: TBD

Submitted by,
Ruth Ann Graime, Secretary