



*City of Bristol
Commission on Aging*

The regular Commission on Aging Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 19, 2024, at 11:00 AM. in the Bristol Senior Center, Room #103, 240 Stafford Avenue, Bristol, CT.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. June 20, 2024
3. Public Participation
4. Mayor/Council Update
5. Correspondance
 - a. Letter from Bristol Hospital
6. Unfinished Business
 - a. Committee Repots
 - b. Facility work update
 - c. By Commissioner
7. New Business
 - a. By Commissioner
8. Any Other Business
 - a. Director's Report
 - b. Monthly Statistical Reports

- c. Upcoming Programs and Activities
- d. Senior Coordinator Report
- 9. Next Meeting is Thursday, October 17, 2024 at 11:00am
- 10. Adjournment

Jaimie Clout
Secretary to the Commission

CITY OF BRISTOL, CONNECTICUT
COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING
Thursday, June 20, 2024 - Regular Meeting Minutes
Bristol Senior Center – 240 Stafford Avenue
Bristol, CT 06010 – Phone: 860-584-7895 **Room #109**

Present: Chairman Larry Zbikowski, Commissioners: Cathy Duck, Ellen McCusker, George Irving, Chris Leigh, Dolores Ricker, Sheila Herens, Executive Director Jason Krueger, Assistant Director Jaimie Clout, and Council Liaison Susan Tyler.

Absent: Mayor Jeffrey Caggiano

Meeting Called to order: Chairman Larry Zbikowski called the meeting to order at 11:04am

Approval of Minutes: *Commissioner Duck moved to accept the minutes from the May 16, 2024 Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Leigh, All in Favor.*

Public Participation: A question was raised by a member asking if the lottery system would be used to determine participation in special events. Executive Director Krueger stated that we would indeed be using the lottery system as to provide a safer, more equitable experience for our members. Additionally, he noted that all ticket requests had been accommodated the last two events.

Council Update: *Council Liaison Sue Tyler* noted a special election being held on July 30th for members of district 3 to vote on a city council replacement. Tyler also reiterated the Heat Advisory for the city.

Correspondence: There was no correspondence.

Unfinished, "Old" Business: None

New Business: Executive Director Krueger noted that building use surveys had been disseminated and results would be discussed in the fall. Krueger also noted that some of the building windows have been replaced, that our Bocce courts will be undergoing an Eagle Scout project to beautify the grounds to better serve the members. He also mentioned that we are due to receive a quote from Millennium Builders to provide two shelters on the court grounds. Krueger also notes that we are still awaiting information regarding the state ARPA funds.

Any other business: Executive Director Krueger reported the statistics for the past month is as follows: In May we had 6,229 participants, total membership was 5,552, with 10 members' deceased and 76 new members. Our fundraiser total was at \$20,205.00. He stated that we have 72 volunteers that have been approved for the Senior Volunteer Tax Credit. Our maximum is 80.

Executive Director Jason Krueger stated that our upcoming events include the volunteer dinner to be held on Wednesday, June 26th at 4:00pm at the Doubletree in Bristol. Additionally, BSC will be hosting a Talent Show on July 17th, a Bristol Blues Baseball game on July 19th, a prize BINGO game on July 24th, and our annual Hot Dog Roast on August 14th.

The next meeting of the Commission on Aging will be on Thursday, September 19, 2024 at 11:00am in Room #109.

Adjournment: *Commissioner Ducr moved “to adjourn” at 11:19 a.m., seconded by Commissioner Leigh. All in favor.*

Respectfully submitted, Jaimie Clout, Secretary to the Commission.

DRAFT



Bristol Hospital Foundation

August 9, 2024

Mr. Jason P. Krueger
Executive Director
Bristol Senior Center
240 Stafford Avenue
Bristol, CT 06010-4682

Dear Mr. Krueger:

On behalf of the Bristol Hospital community, I wish to thank you for the Bristol Senior Center's very generous gift of \$5,000.00, along with the Friends of Bristol Senior Center's generous donation of \$2,500.00, in support of the Foot Clinic services provided to the Senior Center membership.

Your ongoing support of the Senior Wellness Program helps ensure that the medical programs and equipment so important in caring for our local community are available when our friends, family and neighbors need them most.

THANK YOU again for all you have done, and continue to do for Bristol Hospital.

For your tax information, no goods or services were rendered in exchange for this gift.

Sincerely,

Kaitlyn Stankus
Director, Foundation & Public Relations

PO Box 977, Bristol CT 06011-0977 / T 860.585.3365 F 860.585.3853 / bristolhealth.org

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Please write to us at our address if you wish to have your name removed from the list to receive future fund-raising requests supporting Bristol Hospital

September
7,
2024



stjude.org

Dear BSC:

The greatest gifts
I have received from
you have been kindness,
sincerity, friendly
people, superb and
vast programming,
funner than fun
tag sales, a-adorable
gift and wood working
stores, and wicked
easy access to
social security
representatives!



Fondly,
Jane Ellen M.

Emergency Fund Use Committee

There were two requests between June and September of 2024:

\$342.00 for a gentleman that has difficulty moving around and needed a homemaker to come in and clean.

\$50.00 for drop in exercise classes

Both were approved. We have \$211.60 left from the \$2000 that was put aside in April of 2023.

Facility Use Committee Meeting
8/15/24

The Facility use committee met to go over the results from the surveys that were put out to the members of the Bristol Senior Center regarding what to do with the Board of Health space once vacated. This is what we found:

Question #1: Why do you come to the Bristol Senior Center: **We got a variety of answers from programs to volunteering to socializing to nutrition.**

Question #2: Is there a program that you wanted to take but couldn't get into: **The top 5 were: Pilates, Cardio Beats, Trips, Foundations of Balance, and Simple Stretching.**

Question #3: Is there a program or activity that you wish the Senior Center would offer: **We had a very extensive list here. The top 5 were: Technology Help, Field Trips, Badminton, Tai Chi, and Night and Weekend classes.**

Question #4: Is there a program or activity that doesn't have their own space: **The top 6 were : Boutique with a changing room, Thrift store, Art specific Room, Dance classes, Ping pong & air hockey, and certain exercise classes.**

Question #5: Is there a program or activity outgrowing their space: **The top 6 were: Coffee Shop, Pilates/yoga/simple stretch, Woodworking, Boutique, Tag Sale room, and Card Room.**

Question #6: Any other ideas or suggestions: **We got everything here from a splash pad to a pool, to a tennis court to new chairs in our dining room.**

In summary, it looks like several of the suggestions centered on a new space to combine all of the items we sell here at the Senior Center from the woodshop items to the knitters to the Boutique and the tag sale. We also saw a lot of responses showing a need for a media/music/dance room, multipurpose room, larger card room, and storage area.

**Commission on Aging
September 19, 2024
Director's Report**

In June we saw 3,350 participant swipe in for programs, 5592 total members, 9 people deceased, 20 new members, and our fundraiser total for 2023-24 is \$20,205.00.

In July we saw 2,821 participant swipe in for programs, 5614 total members, 10 people deceased, and 32 new members.

In August we saw 2796 participant swipe in for programs, total members, 9 people deceased, 32 new members, and our fundraiser total for 2024-25 is \$15,299.00.

Our upcoming programs include our Health and Information fair on September 26th from 9:00-11:00am, The Advocates for Bristol Seniors are having a Tag Sale on Saturday, September 28th from 9:00am-1:00pm, A Flu Clinic on Wednesday, October 16th from 4-6pm, The Walk to End Alzheimer's on Saturday, October 19th at Rockwell Park, and our annual Craft Fair on Friday October 25th and Saturday, October 26th from 10:00am-3:00pm.

Our Senior Benefits Coordinator has submitted her report as well. She is currently helping people with housing, renter's rebate, and the SNAP toiletries program. Open Enrollment for Medicare opens on October 15th.

We have started changing our light fixtures over to LED's which was a project that originated at Public Works. Our speaker and camera projects should be starting within the next month. Our Bocce shelters should be starting in the next month as well. As of this report I am waiting to hear back from the Public Works Director on the status of the BOH project. We are hoping to get the parking lot project on next year's project list.

Our lunches every day have been cut to 40 that are provided by RW Resources. We have money in a contingency account that we will use when we go over that amount. This is to ensure that the federal funding lasts all year.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jason Krueger
Executive Director
City of Bristol
Department of Aging

Bristol Senior Center- Senior Benefit Coordinator Report

Submitted by: Carrie Tedd

Reporting Period: August 2024

Services	Total Count
Phone Calls	209
Appointments	70
Walk Ins	4
Home Visits	0
	Total 74
SNAP Applications/Renewals	27
Medicare Savings Program Apps/Renewals	11
Husky C Applications/Renewals	5
Miscellaneous Medicare Assistance	3
SNAP Toiletry Program	8
Lifeline Program Applications	0
Housing	38
Renter's Rebate Applications	9
Transportation	10
Title 19/Probate Court Paperwork	0

Appointments: The month of August was definitely slow, but as I stated previously that is pretty normal in Social Services field, the summer is normally Social Workers & Case Worker downtime, except for the pandemic years. I was able to help a new elderly resident with a beautiful handmade quilt bedspread, some new blackout curtains and a bed pillow that recently moved into elderly housing and was in need of some basic household items.

SNAP, MSP/QMB & Husky Health: Taking in renewals as well as new applications for SNAP, MSP and Husky/Medicaid programs. I have seen an increase in phone call inquiries regarding food stamp income guidelines, and qualifications. Many senior residents are finding it difficult to pay for groceries due to the increased cost of groceries and other household bills like insurance, gas and clothing.

Medicare Assistance: I still receive phone calls and schedule appointments with residents to discuss when there Medicare needs and questions. It is currently not an Open Enrollment Period.

SNAP Toiletry Program: I have given 8 SNAP toiletry bags and over 26 incontinence products out to clients & residents this month and some just came in to get a few items they ran out of. I think I will be getting several new clients and memberships to the senior center as I gave a presentation at DeLorenzo Towers Senior Housing this month about Seniors & Bullying and also went over my role as a city employee and what I do here at the senior center. I have scheduled 4 appointments already for intakes to the program.

Lifeline Program: The current ACP Program is officially over, but there is another program called the Lifeline Program where customers can get a flat rate of \$9.99 for internet or a discount off their entire bill of \$9.99, depending on their approval. I have approved 4 members this month for the program. They just need to schedule an appointment to see Carrie and go through the online application process.

Housing: The housing crisis is still the same, I continue to assist senior residents with applications for all towns and types of senior housing.

Renter's Rebate: April 1st was the opening day for the State Renter's Rebate Program. I have completed 11 renter's rebate applications and emailed them over to Peggy in the Assessor's Office at the Town Hall. I have several appointments up and coming and will only get busier with this program as the summer goes on. The extra money applicants receive really comes in handy during times like these. The deadline for this program is October 1st, 2024.

Transportation: I continue to assist many members with the application process for Encompass Transportation, ADA Paratransit and Dial-A-Ride, as well as sell the discounted ADA Paratransit Ride Booklets. We now have the ADA Paratransit Ride Booklets back in stock, thanks to Jason ordering them.

Advocacy: I have worked with the Bristol Burlington Health Department on several cases involving seniors and advocacy, providing resources and assistance to the best of my ability.