



*City of Bristol
Commission on Aging*

The regular Commission on Aging Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 16, 2025, 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. Regular Meeting -
 - i. December 19, 2024 Minutes
3. Public Participation
4. Mayor/Council Update
5. Correspondence
6. Old Business
 - a. Facility Project Update
 - b. By Commissioner
7. New Business
 - a. 25-26 Budget
 - b. By Commissioner
8. Committee Reports
9. Any other matter to come before said meeting
 - a. Monthly Statistics

b. Upcoming Events

c. Director's Report

d. Next meeting is Thursday, February 20, 2025 at 11:00am

10. Adjournment

Jaimie Clout
Secretary to the Commission

**CITY OF BRISTOL, CONNECTICUT
COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING
Wednesday, December 19, 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, Dolores Ricker, Chris Leigh, and George Irving. Executive Director Jason Krueger, Assistant Director Jaimie Clout, and Council Liaison Susan Tyler.

Absent: Commissioner: Ellen McCusker and Mayor Caggiano.

Meeting Called to order: Chairman Larry Zbikowski called the meeting to order at 11:00am

Approval of Minutes: *Commissioner Herens moved to accept the minutes from the November 21, 2024 Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Ricker, All in Favor.*

Public Participation: None

Council Update: *Council Liaison Tyler* remarked on the status of the nursing home closures within the city of Bristol and assured us that Mayor Caggiano had expressed the concerns of the city in regards to the loss of jobs and the lack of beds for patients. Furthermore, *Council Liaison Tyler* made the commission aware of an upcoming carol sing taking place on Main St. in Bristol. She detailed the event and encouraged those available to attend.

Correspondence: 1 letter dated 11/14/2024 from a member in regards to the support of non-residents waiting a full day behind residents to register for classes and programs at BSC. 1 letter from the United Way thanking BSC for pantry item donations to their organization.

Unfinished, “Old” Business: Executive Director Krueger provided an update on the status of the shelter project taking place above the outdoor Bocce courts and stated that he hoped for completion before the Christmas holiday. He further remarked that we are waiting for the programming aspect of both the camera system and intercom system to be in place before we can begin utilizing these components. He also mentioned that in a recent meeting with DPW Department Head Ray Rogozinski had gone well and that both our parking lot project and our 5-year CIP were slated to move forward.

New Business: None

Any other business: Executive Director Krueger reported the statistics for December were detailed in the agenda packet and that the past month is as follows: In November we had 3,727 participants, total membership was 5,812, with 7 members’ deceased and 24 new members. Our fundraiser total was at \$18,955.00.

Executive Director Jason Krueger stated that our upcoming events include registration day for programs and classes on Wednesday, January 7th 2025, our Pasta Supper Fundraiser on Thursday, January 9th at 4:30pm and trip registration on Wednesday, January 15th 2025.

The next meeting of the Commission on Aging will be on Thursday, January 16, 2025 at 11:00am in Room #109.

Adjournment: *Commissioner Duck moved “to adjourn” at 11:31 a.m., seconded by Commissioner Leigh. All in favor.*

Respectfully submitted, Jaimie Clout, Secretary to the Commission.

DRAFT

Bristol Senior Center- Senior Benefit Coordinator Report

Submitted by: Carrie Tedd

Reporting Period: December 2024

Services	Total Count
Phone Calls	211
Appointments	63
Walk Ins	3
Home Visits	0
	Total 66
SNAP Applications/Renewals	35
Medicare Savings Program Apps/Renewals	21
Husky C Applications/Renewals	4
Miscellaneous Medicare Assistance	2
SNAP Toiletry Program	13
Lifeline Program Applications	0
Housing	12
Energy Assistance Applications	08
Transportation	6
Title 19/Probate Court Paperwork	0

Appointments: The month of December was definitely slower than last month, but December is always slow due to the Holidays and are shortened work calendar.

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: Open Enrollment ended on December 15th and will not re-open until October 2025.

SNAP Toiletry Program: I have given 13 SNAP toiletry bags and over 33 incontinence products out to clients & residents this month and some just came in to get a few items they ran out of. I have limited

the laundry detergent and cleaning spray to ever other month, because it says 22 loads one bottle can do.

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. I have created a handout for outside of Bristol Subsidized Housing Resource Guide and continue to update it as I investigate new opportunities for subsidized and affordable housing.

Energy Assistance: This is the busy time for Energy Assistance appointments, I continue to process applications and set new appointments, I try and set all my oil & propane customers the first 3 months and then electric & gas throughout the remaining months of the program.

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 worked with Community Services on an eviction/homelessness case that was very in depth and required a significant amount of attention and detail. Steve Bynum was called by a Marshall on an eviction of a 74-year-old lady who was on oxygen and needed to leave that day as he had movers at the apartment removing all her belongings. Steve called me since she was a senior and we went to access the situation. The client was either in the hospital or rehabilitation after a hospital stay during the court paperwork serving process and all official court dates, she stated they raised her rent from \$850 to \$1125, which is an increase of \$275 and she could not afford it on her fixed Social Security income. She said she continued to pay the \$850 and was never once late, so they evicted her for not paying the new listed lease amount. I wrote immediate response grants for the Main Street Foundation and the Salvation Army to request assistance with paying for a motel until we could get all our ducks in a row and to look for an apartment that fit her all her medical and financial needs. With an average of 4 to 5 year wait for Senior Subsidized Housing we knew this was going to be a difficult task. Also, the client is unable to go to a shelter as the shelter is not equipped to handle her medical and physical needs. I filed an Elderly Protective Services report to get some assistance with referrals for a respite stay as well, but that did not work out, as the state was not very helpful. In the end she ended up back in the hospital and then sent to a rehabilitation facility where she will stay because she is 100% Medicaid covered until a bed opens up at a nursing home/assisted living.

Commission on Aging
January 16, 2025
Director's Report

In December we saw 2350 participant swipe ins for programs, 5664 total members, 10 people deceased, 24 new members, and our fundraiser total for 2024-25 is \$18,955.00.

Our upcoming programs include A Harmonica entertainment session on January 22, and all of our winter classes and leagues will start the week of January 27. We are closed on January 20 for MLK day.

We just completed a very successful class registration, and trip registration in the last two weeks. We are finding that our classes are maxing out, even our classes in the gym where we allow 60 people.

Our Senior Benefits Coordinator has submitted her report as well. She is currently helping people with Eversource energy assistance and helping out with evictions as well.

The speaker project is almost complete. We can make the announcements through the phones, but are still working on the speakers. The cameras are up and running and we can monitor them from our computers. We only need to finish the probate side to be done. The shelters need only the roofs to be finished.

I have attached our budget for the next fiscal year. I have put in for another full time position to work second shift so we can expand our programming and activities.

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