

**CITY OF BRISTOL, CONNECTICUT
COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING
Wednesday, February 20, 2025 - Regular Meeting Minutes
Bristol Senior Center – 240 Stafford Avenue
Bristol, CT 06010 – Phone: 860-584-7895 Room #109**

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

Absent: Council Liaison Susan Tyler.

Meeting Called to order: Chairman Larry Zbikowski called the meeting to order at 11:02am

Approval of Minutes: *Commissioner Herens moved to accept the minutes from the January 16, 2024 Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Ricker, All in Favor.*

Public Participation: Questions were directed to ***Mayor Caggiano*** in regards to the upcoming move of Bristol Pre-School to the Bristol Senior Center building complex, parking lot concerns, and the status of the Jerome Ave. Bridge as well as questions regarding the burning of medical waste at the Covanta location. ***Mayor Caggiano*** remarked that he would address these questions in his update.

Council Update: ***Mayor Caggiano*** remarked that the BOE had a total of \$16M available to them to make repairs to the roof at Edgewood School. Additionally, that a current budget deficit of \$7.8M exists. The conditions at Edgewood School have been deemed unsafe for building occupancy. With the looming budget deficit, it is best for taxpayers for the city to utilize a space in which to move Pre-School to a location that would result in the least financial burden. It was stated that the temporary occupancy should cease by June 30th 2025 and that the BBHD should remain unaffected in terms of their planned relocation to that space. ***Mayor Caggiano*** further remarked that BOE has discretion over their funds and how they spend their funds is not within his purview. ***Mayor Caggiano*** explained the process of medical waste and stated that he had no concerns in regards to what medical waste is being incinerated but only that there are no negative effects to ambient air quality. He encouraged residents to follow along the reports made by Reworld regarding air quality. He further remarked that there are tax benefits to the residents of Bristol for hosting the Covanta site. He addressed the concern of noise pollution and assured audience members that the problem is being handled and ultimately noise levels have decreased since 2022 and he credited the BBHD for advocating for such decreases.

Correspondence: None

Unfinished, “Old” Business: None

New Business: None

Any other business: Executive Director Krueger reported the statistics for January: we had 3,725 participants, total membership was 5,760, with 22 members’ deceased and 71 new members. Our fundraiser total was at \$19,100.00.

Executive Director Jason Krueger stated that our upcoming events include our St. Patrick’s Day dinner hosted by our Korean Veterans on March 12th, the Shamrock school dancers on March 14th, a full slate

of lectures, and Indian cooking class on March 7th, and a shredding event on April 21st. Classes are in full swing and Trip Registrations are going very well.

The next meeting of the Commission on Aging will be on Thursday, March 20, 2025 at 11:00am in Room #109.

Adjournment: *Commissioner Ricker moved “to adjourn” at 11:40 a.m., seconded by Commissioner Irving. All in favor.*

Respectfully submitted, Jaimie Clout, Secretary to the Commission.