

Daniel A. Micari, Commissioner, Chairperson
Barbara Bajurny, Commissioner
Andrew Collins, Commissioner, Secretary
Gloria Ewings, Commissioner
Ruth Ann Graime, Commissioner
Joseph Krolikowski, Commissioner
Jacqueline Olsen, City Council Liaison
Diane Salmoiraghi, Commissioner



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

**Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2025**

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: Micari, Collins, Ewings, Graime, Krolikowski, Olsen, Salmoiraghi

Absent: Bajurny

Call to order: 7:02 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes: February 12, 2025 (Ewings/ Krolikowski, passed)

Presentation: Amy Martino, Director of Pupil Personnel Services, Bristol Public Schools
Topic: Overview of special services

Ms. Martino began the presentation by introducing herself. She has spent more than 20 years working with individuals with disabilities after having been inspired by a cousin who was blind and deaf.

The Office of Pupil Services has assistants and secretaries to carry out its functions. It has K-12, district-wide programs. The services provided address students with various cognitive and medical needs, including those on the autism

spectrum. There is a desire to keep students with autism in general education classes, but specially designed programs may be necessary. About 122 students with special needs attend out-of-district programs. Preschool services are available as well. Many types of people are involved in programs including teachers, parents, and administrators.

There is much community engagement as well including involvement by MOVIA, CIAC, and the Bristol Blues. The Main Street Foundation has provided grants to support programs. Some of these collaborations include teaching job skills. There are also programs for the 18-22-year-old age group such as assisting with job placement including at Bristol Hospital, Café Real, etc.

Ms. Martino also described various events that have been organized for students in these programs including a reverse career fair and a special end-of-year graduation to accommodate those with special needs.

Ms. Martino said that she would be the contact person for any questions and that she can be reached at the following contacts:

Office phone number: 860-584-7051

Work cell number: 860-378-9425

Email: amymartino@bristolk12.org

During the presentation, Ms. Martino answered several questions from commissioners and members of the audience.

New/Current Business

- * Chairman Micari stated that Brian McLaughlin, Director of Systemwide Service Planning, CT Transit is tentatively scheduled to present at the April 9, 2025, meeting.
- *Due to the absence of Commissioner Bajurny, there were no updates regarding the installation of the smoke/CO detectors.
- *Chairman Micari stated that he is waiting on updates regarding the establishment of the state Bureau for Deaf, Deafblind and Hard of Hearing Services. No major updates have been available since the previous meeting.
- *Chairman Micari stated that he received a call from Margaret Banker, Director of ADA Paratransit Services, Greater Hartford Transit District. She stated that the funding status of the M7 project is in question unless there is funding from the state. A loss of funding could have a significant impact on those who use those services.

Old Business

*Jon Sahlin, ASL interpreter, led the Commission in teaching ASL signs related to St. Patrick's Day and Easter.

Correspondence

*Chairman Micari sent a message to Mary Etter, Executive Director of the Bristol Adult Resource Center, thanking her for the presentation that she gave at the February 12, 2025, meeting.

Public Participation

*None.

Motion to adjourn: Krolikowski/Ewings, passed **Meeting adjourned:** 7:41 PM

Next meeting: April 9, 2025, at 7:00 PM
City Hall, 3rd floor meeting room 3-1

Presenter: Brian McLaughlin, Director of Systemwide Service Planning,
CT Transit
Topic: Statewide plan to revamp bus stops

Submitted by,
Andrew Collins, Secretary