



*City of Bristol
Commission on Aging*

The regular Commission on Aging Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 18, 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 - June 26, 2025
3. Public Participation
4. Mayor/Council Update
5. Correspondence
 - a. Letter from Bristol Hospital
6. Unfinished Business
 - a. Facility Update - PW Dept
 - b. Staff Hirings
 - c. By Commissioner
7. New Business
 - a. Department Posting
 - b. Class Registration
 - c. By Commissioner
8. Any Other Business
 - a. Monthly Statistical Report

- b. Upcoming Programs & Activities
- c. Senior Benefits Coordinator Report
- d. Director's Report

9. Next Meeting is Thursday, October 16, 2025

10. Adjournment

PER ORDER OF THE CHAIRPERSON

**CITY OF BRISTOL, CONNECTICUT
COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING
Thursday, June 26, 2025 - Regular Meeting Minutes
Bristol Senior Center – 240 Stafford Avenue
Bristol, CT 06010 – Phone: 860-584-7895 Room #109**

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

Absent: Mayor Caggiano.

Meeting Called to order: Commissioner Larry Zbikowski called the meeting to order at 11:03am

Approval of Minutes: *Commissioner Herens moved to accept the minutes from the May 15, 2025 Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Duck, All in Favor.*

Public Participation: Ann Raucci expressed concern over our Senior Center losing Federal funding for their Senior Nutrition Program. Executive Director Krueger explained that we are managing it in house through donations with the intent to go out into the community to see if we could get meals donated for the next fiscal year.

Council Update: *Councilwoman Tyler* asked for questions from the commission.

Correspondence: We have none

Unfinished, "Old" Business: Executive Director Krueger reported that the School kids are finishing their school year tomorrow and the Public Works Dept. will start the Board of Health renovations shortly thereafter. The pickleball courts are back up and running, and the parking lot project is on track to begin shortly.

New Business: Executive Director Krueger reported that we are in the process of looking for a Night time worker, a temporary custodian, and an Assistant Director.

Committee Reports: none

Any other business: *Executive Director Krueger* reported the statistics for May, we had 5,509 participants, total membership was 5,973, with 7 members' deceased and 36 new members. Our fundraiser total was at \$19,320.00.

Executive Director Jason Krueger stated that our upcoming programs include our Volunteer dinner on June 26th at 4:00pm, a Pasta Supper Fundraiser on July 9th at 4:30pm, a Jukebox Bingo on July 18th at 1:30pm, our summer picnic on August 13th at 4:30pm, and our Magical Mystery Tour on August 24th at 9:00am.

The next meeting of the Commission on Aging will be on Thursday, September 18, 2025 at 11:00am in Room #109.

Adjournment: *Commissioner Duck moved "to adjourn" at 11:30 a.m., seconded by Commissioner Ricker. All in favor.*

Respectfully submitted,
Jason Krueger.

July 8, 2025

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,



Kurt A. Barwis, FACHE
President & Chief Executive Officer

Bristol Senior Center- Senior Benefit Coordinator Report

Submitted by: Carrie Tedd

Reporting Period: JUNE 2025

Services	Total Count
Phone Calls	246
Appointments	98
Walk Ins	14
Home Visits	2
	Total 114
SNAP Applications/Renewals	44
Medicare Savings Program Apps/Renewals	39
Husky C Applications/Renewals	27
Miscellaneous Medicare Assistance	0
SNAP Toiletry Program	24
Lifeline Program Applications	0
Housing	31
Energy Assistance Applications	0
Eversource Discount Programs	17
Transportation	23
Title 19/Probate Court Paperwork	9

Appointments: The month of June was pretty consistent, but slowly getting a little slower, as the summer months tend to be the slower time in social services and catch-up time for filing, paperwork and updating resources for myself.

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 24 SNAP toiletry bags and over 31 incontinence products out to clients & residents this month and some just came in to get a few items they ran out of. I signed up 6 new clients to the program through verification of DSS SNAP benefits and or income.

Housing: I continue to research available privately owned apartments for rent for the many seniors looking for a place to live. The homelessness situation is not getting better, but getting worse as we can see the homelessness within our own city limits. I was able to get a private rental for a female client who was in a bad living situation and happen to contact me at the right time when a local realtor I keep in close contact with had 2 apartments fully remodeled open up.

Energy Assistance: The Federal Energy Assistance Program has officially closed as of May 31st, 2025 and will re-open September 1st, 2025. I have begun to set appointments for many of my oil energy assistance clients, I am setting them for the month of September.

Eversource: I continue to sign up so many senior residents with the Eversource tiered monthly discount program. There have been some changes to this program when it comes to the amount of the discount the individual is getting, the program discounts now consist of 5%, 15%, 20%, 40% & 50% depending on their income.

Transportation: The Encompass Transportation Program has been approved for another year due to many social services agency representative's and legislators that fought for the funding to keep this vital program for the seniors of our community.

Advocacy: I was the guest speaker for Elder Abuse Awareness Month at DeLorenzo Senior Housing located on North Main Street. I did an hour presentation on Elder Abuse, attached is the presentation I put together for this event. After the presentation I discussed my role for the city at the senior center and all the services we offer to our city senior residents. I also wanted to thank all the members who donated brand new bath towels, shaving cream & razors to benefit the Saint Vincent DePaul Shelter. We collected 3 very large plastic tote bins filled to the top, the picture attached is just the last weeks' worth of donations collected and the staff at SVDP sent me this picture thanking the Bristol Senior Center for continuously helping the homelessness effort in our city.

Bristol Senior Center- Senior Benefit Coordinator Report

Submitted by: Carrie Tedd

Reporting Period: JULY 2025

Services	Total Count
Phone Calls	292
Appointments	118
Walk Ins	10
Home Visits	1
	Total 129
SNAP Applications/Renewals	49
Medicare Savings Program Apps/Renewals	21
Husky C Applications/Renewals	22
Miscellaneous Medicare Assistance	0
SNAP Toiletry Program	25
Lifeline Program Applications	0
Housing	18
Energy Assistance Applications	0
Eversource Discount Programs	21
Transportation	17
Title 19/Probate Court Paperwork	11

Appointments: The month of July was busier than the month of June, it has been consistent and steady with the normal social services being provided.

SNAP, MSP/QMB & Husky Health: Taking in renewals as well as new applications for SNAP, MSP and Husky/Medicaid programs. Many senior residents are finding it difficult to pay for groceries due to the increased cost of groceries other household bills, so I have been handing out the attached list of food pantries I have created for the Bristol area.

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

SNAP Toiletry Program: I have given 25 SNAP toiletry bags and over 21 incontinence products out to clients & residents this month and some just came in to get a few items they ran out of. I signed up 4 new clients to the program through verification of DSS SNAP benefits and or income.

Housing: I continue to research available privately owned apartments for rent for the many seniors looking for a place to live. The homelessness situation is not getting better, but getting worse as we can see the homelessness within our own city limits. I was able to get a private rental for a female client who was in a bad living situation and happen to contact me at the right time when a local realtor I keep in close contact with had 2 apartments fully remodeled open up.

Energy Assistance: I have begun to set appointments for many of my oil energy assistance clients, I am setting them for the month of September as the Federal Energy Assistance Program opens September 1st of every year.

Eversource: I continue to sign up so many senior residents with the Eversource tiered monthly discount program. There have been some changes to this program when it comes to the amount of the discount the individual is getting, the program discounts now consist of 5%, 15%, 20%, 40% & 50% depending on their income and most of my clients who have been getting the 50% off their monthly bill are no longer getting that amount and are either in the 15% to 20% discount category now and they are upset about it.

Transportation: I have signed several new clients and existing clients up with the ADA Paratransit Program through Hartford Transit District.

Advocacy: I have some unfortunate news; Greater Hartford Legal Aid has closed their Senior Unit that provided free Power of Attorney & Advanced Directive legal services to qualifying seniors. I would say 80% of seniors can not afford an Elder Law Attorney such as Allaire or Kilbourne & Tully, it is just not in their fixed income budget, so the value of GHLA services was essential to many of my senior clients. I did provide my contact at GHLA a percentage of clients who have used their services and she said this was perfect for her director to go to the Board and convince them of this essential senior service and that they need to get another Elder Law attorney on board and asked for pro bono services for the POA & Advanced Directives for income qualifying seniors. She said she would get back to me as soon as she is told of any changes, so I took down the informational and applications from the front desk area until further notice. Some other news, our local United Way of West Central Connecticut has closed their Bristol office and combined with United Way of Northeastern Connecticut and the new name is United Way of Central and Northeastern CT and their office is now located in Hartford. Attached is the announcement and new information about this official change.

Bristol Senior Center- Senior Benefit Coordinator Report

Submitted by: Carrie Tedd

Reporting Period: August 2025

Services	Total Count
Phone Calls	288
Appointments	91
Walk Ins	9
Home Visits	1
	Total 101
SNAP Applications/Renewals	44
Medicare Savings Program Apps/Renewals	27
Husky C Applications/Renewals	11
Miscellaneous Medicare Assistance	0
SNAP Toiletry Program	30
Lifeline Program Applications	0
Housing	22
Energy Assistance Applications	0
Eversource Discount Programs	16
Transportation	14
Title 19/Probate Court Paperwork	8

Appointments: The month of August was a bit slower than July, but steady and consistent with the normal social services being provided and a few more detailed oriented social issues.

SNAP, MSP/QMB & Husky Health: Taking in renewals as well as new applications for SNAP, MSP and Husky/Medicaid programs. Many senior residents are finding it difficult to pay for groceries due to the increased cost of groceries other household bills, so I have been handing out the attached list of food pantries I have created for the Bristol area.

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

SNAP Toiletry Program: I have given 30 SNAP toiletry bags and over 38 incontinence products out to clients & residents this month and some just came in to get a few items they ran out of. I signed up 3 new clients to the program through verification of DSS SNAP benefits and or income.

Housing: I continue to research available privately owned apartments for rent for the many seniors looking for a place to live. The homelessness situation is not getting better, but getting worse as I was told there was 6 people evicted over 55 this month and one of them I was called out to assist with the eviction and homeless situation for a woman that was over 70 years old with physical & mental disabilities that lived in a Bristol Housing Authority property for over 24 years.

Energy Assistance: I have begun to set appointments for many of my oil energy assistance clients, I am setting them for the month of September as the Federal Energy Assistance Program opens September 1st of every year.

Eversource: I continue to sign up so many senior residents with the Eversource tiered monthly discount program. There have been some changes to this program when it comes to the amount of the discount the individual is getting, the program discounts now consist of 5%, 15%, 20%, 40% & 50% depending on their income and most of my clients who have been getting the 50% off their monthly bill are no longer getting that amount and are either in the 15% to 20% discount category now and they are upset about it.

Transportation: I have signed several new clients and existing clients up with the ADA Paratransit Program through Hartford Transit District as well at our local Dial-A-Ride.

Advocacy: I have assisted a few seniors with a simple will templates and then I write it all out into 3 copies and Jason will then notarize the will and Taylor and myself witness it. This is a legal will according to probate court. Many seniors ask me how to go about getting a will in place, but 80% of them can not afford an attorney to provide the service as it is very expensive. I think this a great service we are providing and one less stress our senior members have to face. I have been working with the head nurse at the Bristol Burlington Health Department to develop an assistance program to prevent senior homelessness. Tina Tanguay approached me for assistance writing the policies & procedures to this program. This is a program that is much needed and due to the fact that two local churches wanted to know how they could help and have set aside some funding specifically for homelessness and seniors.

Emergency Relief Fund Expenditures

7301027-584711

Established March 2023

Beginning Balance = \$2,000.00

April 11, 2023	\$158.67	\$1,841.33 left	Pat Cyr
July 7, 2023	\$450.00	\$1,391.33 left	TLC Transp
September 6, 2023	\$62.96	\$1,328.37 left	Deborah Bagwell
October 10, 2023	\$79.99	\$1,248.38 left	Valerie Gayle
January 22, 2024	\$500.00	\$748.38 left	Sharon Hagaman
March 28, 2024	\$500.00	\$248.38 left	Lori Bokanowski
June 27, 2024	\$44.77	\$203.61 left	Lori Bokanowski

Added \$2,000 from Donation Revenue Account 1/21/25

June 17, 2025	\$425.00	\$1,778.61 left	Jim O'Donnell
July 1, 2025	\$200.00(MSF \$300)	\$1,558.61 left	Cynthia Heroux
Donation-Larry Zib	+\$20.00	\$1,578.61 left	n/a
September 10, 2025	\$27.52	\$1,551.09 left	Paul Pelletier

Commission on Aging
September 18, 2025
Director's Report

In June we saw 5327 participant swipe ins for programs, 6,022 total members, 3 people deceased, 34 new members, and our fundraiser total for 2024-25 is \$19,320.00. Our new appeal went out August. In July we saw 4795 participant swipe ins for programs, 6039 total members, 8 people deceased, and 28 new members. In August we saw 4887 participant swipe ins for programs, 6073 total members, 10 people deceased, 23 new members, and our fundraiser total for 2025-26 is \$12,1570.00.

Our upcoming programs include our Health and Informational Fair on September 18th, a Legislative update on September 22nd, a Special Prize Bingo on October 1st, A Meet & Greet the candidates on October 8th, A Trivia Night on October 9th, A Flu clinic on October 15th, and our Craft fair on October 24th & 25th.

The Fall classes will start on the week of September 22nd. This has been by far our busiest registration with several classes filling up.

Our Senior Benefits Coordinator has submitted her report as well. She is currently helping people with energy assistance and getting ready for open enrollment on October 15th.

The Administrative Assistant position is out for applications and closed on September 16th. We hope to conduct interviews and have someone hired very soon.

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