



*City of Bristol
Commission on Aging*

The regular Commission on Aging Meeting will be held on Thursday, November 20, 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. Special Meeting - October 23, 2025
3. Public Participation
4. Mayor/Council Update
5. Correspondence
 - a. Letter from Eric Rosenberg, East Hampton COA chair
6. Unfinished Business
 - a. Facility Update
 - b. By Commissioner
7. New Business
 - a. Volunteer Manual
 - b. Rules and Regulations
 - c. By Commissioner
8. Committee Reports
 - a. Emergency Use — No Activity
 - b. Facility Use — Schedule Meeting for January

9. Any Other Business

- a. Monthly Statistical Report
- b. Monthly Programs and Activities
- c. Senior Benefits Coordinator Report
- d. Directors Report

10. Next Meeting is December 18th, 2025, at 11:00 AM in Room 109

11. Adjournment

Respectfully Submitted
Taylor Maghini
Secretary to the Commission

**CITY OF BRISTOL, CONNECTICUT
COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING
Thursday, October 23, 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, George Irving. Executive Director Jason Krueger, and Council Liaison Susan Tyler.

Absent: Assistant Director Taylor Maghini, and Mayor Caggiano

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

Approval of Minutes: *Commissioner Duck moved to accept the minutes from the September 18, 2025 Meeting, seconded by Commissioner McCusker, All in Favor.*

Public Participation: None

Council Update: *Council Liaison Sue Tyler* informed us that the income guidelines for the Volunteer Tax Credit program increased to \$75,000 per household excluding social security.

Correspondence: none

Unfinished, "Old" Business: Executive Director Krueger gave the facility update and informed the Commission that we have hired a new Administrative Assistant. Her name is Brie McDonald and she will be starting on October 31st.

New Business: Executive Director Krueger explained how the congregate meal program works, went over the financial numbers from last year, and explained that he will be trying to get businesses in Bristol to sponsor meals at a subsidized cost every other month.

Committee Reports: none

Any other business: *Executive Director Krueger* reported the statistics for June, we had 5,671 participants, total membership was 6,109, with 11 members' deceased and 53 new members. Our fundraiser total was at \$22,562.00.

Executive Director Jason Krueger stated that our upcoming programs include our Craft Fair on October 24 & 25, A Halloween Party sponsored by Kindcare and Beltone on October 29th, A Veteran's Breakfast sponsored by Shady Oaks on November 5th, and an Advocates Tag Sale on November 15th. We will be closed on November 11th for Veteran's Day.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Jason Krueger

Dear Leader,

Have you ever wondered how you could become a more effective leader of a commission on aging (COA) or a similar group*? What could help you and your COA to accomplish your goals? I'm Eric Rosenberg, a retired geriatrician who chairs the East Hampton COA, and I want to tell you about an emerging plan to help you out.

When COAs and their leaders share their rich set of experiences and knowledge with other COAs across the state, learn from each other, and leverage their advocacy for older adults, we can all fulfill our missions better.

Imagine the possibilities:

Efficiency and best practices -

- Avoid reinventing the wheel – many COAs have developed excellent programs that are shareable with others. Posting on a common bulletin board would give other COAs ideas and contacts for projects. For example, East Hampton developed a survey of senior needs and a branch of a volunteer organization, then shared the plans with several other COAs.
- Ask for help – when confronting an obstacle, a COA could query other COAs for help and solutions.
- Alert other COAs to urgent situations found in one town but germane to all (e.g., state emergency heating assistance funds running out)
- Enable COAs to find out how other towns' COAs are organized – scope of duties, number of members and alternates, resources, etc.
- Share knowledge of available grants, programs, senior centers facilities and programs, and educational resources
- Train leaders: links to resources, seminars, information on state meeting regulations

Networking -

- Improve contacts between COAs
- Improve COA contacts with state agencies about programs and resources
- Improve COA contacts with non-state entities focused on senior needs (Area Agencies on Aging, AARP, grant-making entities,..)

Advocacy –

- Support each COA in educating the public and the elected officials who represent them locally, so that officials across the state can hear from their own constituents on matters affecting the quality of life of Connecticut's older adults.

Creating a statewide COA group

Step one was collecting contact information for leaders of COAs and similar organizations across the state's towns and cities. Many thanks are due to intern Madison Daigneau, who surveyed Municipal Agents for the Elderly about organizations in their towns. Thanks also to her mentors, the Department of Aging's Claire Cote and

the Legislature's Michael Werner, Esq. Please study the list, and contact me about any incorrect or missing information, so we can update it.

Step two is well underway: a steering committee is forming an organization to implement the possibilities I discussed above. If you would like to find out more, or particularly if you would like to help with the work of planning and forming the group, please contact me.

Thank you!

Eric

Eric Rosenberg, MD
COAChair@easthamptonct.gov
860-416-0269

*Note - when I write "COA," I mean "COA or other COA-like organization.

Bristol Senior Center- Senior Benefit Coordinator Report

Submitted by: Carrie Tedd

Reporting Period: October 2025

Services	Total Count
Phone Calls	356
Appointments	129
Walk Ins	12
Home Visits	0
	Total 141
SNAP Applications/Renewals	30
Medicare Savings Program Apps/Renewals	44
Husky C Applications/Renewals	21
Miscellaneous Medicare Assistance	0
SNAP Toiletry Program	15
Lifeline Program Applications	0
Housing	39
Energy Assistance Applications	29
Eversource Discount Programs	40
Transportation	14
Title 19/Probate Court Paperwork	09

Appointments: The month of October has been very busy and I do not foresee it slowing down at all, as so many residents are in need of assistance.

SNAP, MSP/QMB & Husky Health: Taking in renewals as well as new applications for SNAP, MSP and Husky/Medicaid programs. This month the Government announced that since they are still closed that SNAP recipients will not receive their SNAP benefits in the month of November. This announcement has caused a certain hysteria within social services agencies and the recipients themselves. So, I went ahead and made sure our **List of Bristol Food Pantries** is up to date and made additional copies for the front office in case anyone comes in and asks what to do and if there are any resources due to this issue.

Medicare Assistance: Open Enrollment starts October 15th, 2025 and ends December 7th, 2025. Lauren from NCAAA and myself are hosting 5 dates throughout October & December for appointments for any members who have questions regarding their Medicare coverage and any changes to their plans. All the dates are filled, so Lauren and I added an additional day in order to accommodate any additional members if they are in need of Medicare questions or want to change their plan.

SNAP Toiletry Program: I have given 15 SNAP toiletry bags and over 29 incontinence products out to clients & residents this month. Unfortunately, I ran out of funding for this program due to the previous grant I wrote that came in way under the requested dollar amount, so in order not to shut down the program I changed the guidelines to accommodate existing clients and apply for another grant in November when the new grant cycle opens with another non-profit, the funding usually does not come in until February or March.

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 still affecting so many senior residents and will continue as the rental market continues to get higher and higher. The Bristol Housing Authority announced they are opening their waitlist for one of their senior locations, so I have contacted everyone that I have on my list to schedule appointments to assist them with the online waitlist application.

Energy Assistance: I have done 29 Federal Energy Assistance applications this month, majority are oil heating residents, as I encourage all my deliverable fuel clients to schedule the first month energy assistance opens up as their window to receive oil ends by March 31st.

Eversource: I've been renewing the Eversource Tiered Discount benefit for many clients and they are unhappy about the discount changes to the program, which is understandable considering the cost of the electricity today.

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

Advocacy: As I stated last month that I have been working with the head nurse at the Bristol Burlington Health Department to develop an assistance program to prevent senior homelessness with funding from Asbury Church. Tina and I were part of the guest speaker panel on October 17th at 6:30pm at Asbury Church and we discussed are plan to assist and prevent senior homelessness with the assistance of their parishioners that generously offered to help when needed and that the person is properly vetted prior to requesting assistance. I have written the guidelines and policy procedure manual for this program, see attached.

Homelessness Prevention Assistance Funding Guidelines & Procedure Policy

Any missing documentation will automatically disqualify the recipient from funding assistance.

- Recipient must do an in-person Case Management intake to sign releases and provide documentation listed below.
- Household income must be at or below the Federal Poverty Guideline Chart at 185% (See Chart)
- Recipient must show proof of residency, either by being evicted from a Bristol residence or currently have a lease at a Bristol residence. Must show court documentation from eviction.
- Recipient must provide all 3: current valid Photo ID: either a CT Driver's License or State ID & their Social Security Card & Birth Certificate.

Information Session: Addressing Homelessness

*Learn about Homelessness
in the Bristol area,
and how you can help*

Welcome and Introduction

Karna Baumberger

Team Leader, Asbury UMC Social Justice Team

Speakers:

Larry Beaudoin and Matt Norton

of Agape House, a local non-profit
that serves the homeless in the Bristol area,
will speak about the current homeless situation
and what Agape House is doing to help.

Tina Tanguay, RN, CIC

Public Health Nurse II

with the Bristol-Burlington Health District
and

Carrie Tedd

Social Worker with the Bristol Senior Center
will tell us about an idea to help keep senior citizens
from becoming homeless.

Followed by Q&A Session

We wish to express sincere thanks to our speakers

Larry Beaudoin, Matt Norton,

Tina Tanguay and Carrie Tedd

for sharing their expertise with us this evening.

*Please join us after the presentation for
Coffee, Dessert, and Discussion
in Wesley Hall
on the ground level of the church*

Asbury United Methodist Church

90 Church Ave., Forestville, CT

Friday, October 17, 2025

6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Sponsored by
Asbury UMC
Social Justice Team

- All income counts such as Social Security benefits: SSA, SSDI, SSI, most recent 1099 for Pensions, Annuities, Stock Dividends, VA benefits, Alimony, Child Support, Adoption or Foster Stipends. If you work: bi-weekly, last 2 stubs, paid weekly, last 4 stubs in order.
- If you receive any type of Department of Social Services Benefits, you must provide a verification of benefits letter.
- If you are currently housed, you must provide a current lease or rent receipt with your landlord's name, address & contact phone number.
- A copy of your most recent Eversource Electric Utility Bill, if it's included, you must provide a lease that states electric utilities are included in rent payment.
- A copy of your most recent bank statements for ALL bank accounts. Checking, Savings, CD's, Money Markets.

- Depending on the type of funding assistance needed, example: car repair, we need 2 quotes from legitimate businesses and they are required to complete a W-9 Form for tax purposes. If behind on rent, need to provide an acceptable reason for non-payment, provide receipts and invoices paid, it will be determined acceptable or non-acceptable on a case-by-case basis.
- All recipients must be able to financial pay all their rent and household bills moving forward and sustain it for the future without any assistance.

2025 Poverty Guidelines: 48 Contiguous States (all states except Alaska and Hawaii)

Dollars Per Month

Household/ Family Size	50%	75%	100%	125%	130%	133%	135%	138%	150%	175%	180%	185%
1	652.08	978.13	1,304.17	1,630.21	1,695.42	1,734.54	1,760.63	1,799.75	1,956.25	2,282.29	2,347.50	2,412.71
2	881.25	1,321.88	1,762.50	2,203.13	2,291.25	2,344.13	2,379.38	2,432.25	2,643.75	3,084.38	3,172.50	3,260.63
3	1,110.42	1,665.63	2,220.83	2,776.04	2,887.08	2,953.71	2,998.13	3,064.75	3,331.25	3,886.46	3,997.50	4,108.54
4	1,339.58	2,009.38	2,679.17	3,348.96	3,482.92	3,563.29	3,616.88	3,697.25	4,018.75	4,688.54	4,822.50	4,956.46
5	1,568.75	2,353.13	3,137.50	3,921.88	4,078.75	4,172.88	4,235.63	4,329.75	4,706.25	5,490.63	5,647.50	5,804.38
6	1,797.92	2,696.88	3,595.83	4,494.79	4,674.58	4,782.46	4,854.38	4,962.25	5,393.75	6,292.71	6,472.50	6,652.29
7	2,027.08	3,040.63	4,054.17	5,067.71	5,270.42	5,392.04	5,473.13	5,594.75	6,081.25	7,094.79	7,297.50	7,500.21
8	2,256.25	3,384.38	4,512.50	5,640.63	5,866.25	6,001.63	6,091.88	6,227.25	6,768.75	7,896.88	8,122.50	8,348.13
9	2,485.42	3,728.13	4,970.83	6,213.54	6,462.08	6,611.21	6,710.63	6,859.75	7,456.25	8,698.96	8,947.50	9,196.04
10	2,714.58	4,071.88	5,429.17	6,786.46	7,057.92	7,220.79	7,329.38	7,492.25	8,143.75	9,501.04	9,772.50	10,043.96
11	2,943.75	4,415.63	5,887.50	7,359.38	7,653.75	7,830.38	7,948.13	8,124.75	8,831.25	10,303.13	10,597.50	10,891.88
12	3,172.92	4,759.38	6,345.83	7,932.29	8,249.58	8,439.96	8,566.88	8,757.25	9,518.75	11,105.21	11,422.50	11,739.79
13	3,402.08	5,103.13	6,804.17	8,505.21	8,845.42	9,049.54	9,185.63	9,389.75	10,206.25	11,907.29	12,247.50	12,587.71
14	3,631.25	5,446.88	7,262.50	9,078.13	9,441.25	9,659.13	9,804.38	10,022.25	10,893.75	12,709.38	13,072.50	13,435.63

Dollars Per Year

Household/ Family Size	50%	75%	100%	125%	130%	133%	135%	138%	150%	175%	180%	185%
1	7,825.00	11,737.50	15,650.00	19,562.50	20,345.00	20,814.50	21,127.50	21,597.00	23,475.00	27,387.50	28,170.00	28,952.50
2	10,575.00	15,862.50	21,150.00	26,437.50	27,495.00	28,129.50	28,552.50	29,187.00	31,725.00	37,012.50	38,070.00	39,127.50
3	13,325.00	19,987.50	26,650.00	33,312.50	34,645.00	35,444.50	35,977.50	36,777.00	39,975.00	46,637.50	47,970.00	49,302.50
4	16,075.00	24,112.50	32,150.00	40,187.50	41,795.00	42,759.50	43,402.50	44,367.00	48,225.00	56,262.50	57,870.00	59,477.50
5	18,825.00	28,237.50	37,650.00	47,062.50	48,945.00	50,074.50	50,827.50	51,957.00	56,475.00	65,887.50	67,770.00	69,652.50
6	21,575.00	32,362.50	43,150.00	53,937.50	56,095.00	57,389.50	58,252.50	59,547.00	64,725.00	75,512.50	77,670.00	79,827.50
7	24,325.00	36,487.50	48,650.00	60,812.50	63,245.00	64,704.50	65,677.50	67,137.00	72,975.00	85,137.50	87,570.00	90,002.50
8	27,075.00	40,612.50	54,150.00	67,687.50	70,395.00	72,019.50	73,102.50	74,727.00	81,225.00	94,762.50	97,470.00	100,177.50
9	29,825.00	44,737.50	59,650.00	74,562.50	77,545.00	79,334.50	80,527.50	82,317.00	89,475.00	104,387.50	107,370.00	110,352.50
10	32,575.00	48,862.50	65,150.00	81,437.50	84,695.00	86,649.50	87,952.50	89,907.00	97,725.00	114,012.50	117,270.00	120,527.50
11	35,325.00	52,987.50	70,650.00	88,312.50	91,845.00	93,964.50	95,377.50	97,497.00	105,975.00	123,637.50	127,170.00	130,702.50
12	38,075.00	57,112.50	76,150.00	95,187.50	98,995.00	101,279.50	102,802.50	105,087.00	114,225.00	133,262.50	137,070.00	140,877.50
13	40,825.00	61,237.50	81,650.00	102,062.50	106,145.00	108,594.50	110,227.50	112,677.00	122,475.00	142,887.50	146,970.00	151,052.50
14	43,575.00	65,362.50	87,150.00	108,937.50	113,295.00	115,909.50	117,652.50	120,267.00	130,725.00	152,512.50	156,870.00	161,227.50

**Commission on Aging
November 20, 2025
Director's Report**

In October we saw 6,714 participant swipe ins for programs, 6,129 total members, 16 people deceased, 42 new members, and our fundraiser total for 2025-26 is \$22,997.00.

Our upcoming programs include a Harvest dinner sponsored by M&R Homecare on November 21st, a decorating event on December 2nd, a State Wii tournament on December 11th, and a Christmas dinner sponsored by the Pines on December 17th. We will also be scheduling pizza parties for certain groups all December long.

Taylor and I have been working hard getting the schedule in place for next year. The class schedule is listed in the December newsletter along with the class registration, trip roll-out, and trip registration dates. We fully anticipate to have most activities filled again.

Our Senior Benefits Coordinator has submitted her report as well. Carrie has been an advocate for keeping seniors out of homelessness. She is working with various organizations to identify people in financial hardship and direct them to the right agency to prevent a homeless situation.

The Administrative Assistant position has been filled and Brie MacDonald. If you haven't met her yet, stop by the office.

The focus for the next several months will be on updating our volunteer lists, getting a plan on subsidizing the Congregate Meal program, Implementing an Emergency Action Plan, and updating our rules and regulations.

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

