

Daniel A. Micari, Commissioner, Chairperson
Barbara Bajurny, Commissioner
Gloria Ewings, Commissioner
Ruth Ann Graime, Commissioner, Secretary
Joseph Krolkowski, Commissioner
Deborah Reed, Commissioner
Diane Salmoiraghi, Commissioner
Susan Tyler, City Council Liaison



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

**Meeting Agenda
January 14, 2026**

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:

Absent:

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes: December 10, 2025

Presentation: Donna Dognin, Executive Director, Veterans Strong

New/Current Business

*Discussion to continue (see December minutes) regarding a scout program related to living with a disability, as requested by the group leader. The Commission's consensus: 1. That this program will foster compassion and disability awareness; 2. That considerable advance planning will be necessary with respect to content and presentation. Chairman Micari expressed the possibility of eventual expansion of this program to school groups and adults. He expects to contact the group leader in order to move the idea forward.

Old Business

*Smoke detector installation update

Correspondence

From Chairman Micari: Dear Ms.White: On behalf of the Bristol Commission for Persons with Disabilities, I thank you for your presentation as Guest Speaker at our December Commission meeting. Your informative presentation provided Commissioners and guests with a comprehensive overview of Bristol Public Schools and its Mission, "Teach and Learn with Passion and Purpose." The presentation, beginning with a discussion of your personal background and training as a Special Education Teacher and further professional development and career experience, illustrated the breadth and scope of your readiness to serve as Bristol's Superintendent of schools. The presentation also focused on your key administration priorities and focus areas including, Positive Learning Environments, Enhancing Student Voice, Communication, Community Partnerships and Special Olympics, Fiscal Responsibility, Data-Driven Decision Making & Transparency and your plan to establish a District Equity Leadership Team. These dynamic goals and objectives, underscore your personal and professional commitment to Bristol students, families and staff. I look forward to future collaboration with you and your department.

Response from Superintendent White:

Dear Dan: I want to thank you again for accepting my offer to come present. I enjoyed meeting all of you, and I appreciated the commission members' questions and feedback. Looking forward to our continued collaboration, wishing you all Happy Holidays and a Healthy New Year! iriswhite@bristolk12.org 860-584-7004 (office) 860-302-6300 (cell)

Public Participation

Motion to adjourn:

Meeting adjourned:

Next meeting: February 11, 2025 at 7:00 PM
City Hall, 3rd Floor Meeting Room 3-1

Presentation: TBD

Submitted by Ruth Ann Graime, Secretary

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://bristolct-gov.zoom.us/j/88512009314?pwd=cDdReHV2VWt3eVE2SnYySFhMeWtvdz09>
Passcode: 12345

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Present: Micari, Bajurny, Ewings, Graime, Krolkowski, Reed, Salmoiraghi

Absent: Tyler

Call to order: 7:00 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes: November 12, 2025 (Krolkowski/Ewings, passed)

Presentation: Iris White, Bristol Superintendent of Schools

Ms. White, upon revealing her special education training and consulting background, expressed her commitment to providing supportive educational services to students with disabilities.

Ms. White expects to recruit special education paraprofessionals to provide additional classroom support. Expanding on her responsibility to the entire student body, she addresses student feedback through a student advisory council that represents the Bristol demographic, understands the importance of students' mental health needs, provides consistent professional development and support for staff and administrators, and maintains regular communication with families. Responding to questions from Commissioners and public visitors, she discussed the presence of armed police officers in the schools and bullying concerns which are handled by the Board of Education. She invited further feedback by individuals with additional questions and concerns.

New/Current Business

*Chairman Micari, regarding the request by a girl scout group leader to present a program for scouts to learn how persons with disabilities navigate their lives. A discussion ensued among Commissioners and visitors to define the content and method of the presentation. Commissioner Krolikowski suggested that content should include equipment (tools, canes, phone apps) Commissioner Reed volunteered to speak directly to the scouts about tools used in daily life. There is interest in further discussion of this opportunity in the January meeting. Chairman Micari plans to locate the group leader to explore specific expectations.

*Regarding the ADA virtual conference that was presented in November, Program Manager Karen Green informed Chairman Micari that this conference was available to Commission members at additional cost. However, several training sessions will be announced throughout the year. For these, three slots will be open for member participation at no cost.

Old Business

Smoke detector project: Chairman Micari informed that there is money in our budget to pay for installation. EMD Director Harley Graime met with Fire Chief Richard Hart to coordinate with an electrician. One person requested weekend installation due to work schedule.

Correspondence

None

Public Participation

Throughout the meeting

Motion to adjourn: Krolikowsky/Ewings, passed **Meeting adjourned:** 8:15 PM

Next meeting: January 14, 2026 at 7:00 PM

City Hall, 3rd Floor Meeting Room 3-1

Presentation: Donna Dognin, Executive Director, Veterans Strong

Submitted by,

Ruth Ann Graime, Secretary

