



**REGULAR MEETING
APPROVED MINUTES**

The Commission On Seniors convened in a regular meeting on WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2014, Boards and Commissions, First floor in room 1101, 301 W. 2nd Street in Austin, Texas.

Vice-Chair Erica Garcia-Pittman called the meeting to order at 12:05p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Dr. Tom Coopwood	Joyce Lauck	Dan Pruett
Cecilia Crossley	Fred Lugo	Jennifer Scott
Erica Garcia-Pittman	Martin Kareithi	

Staff in Attendance:

Robert Kingham, COA-HHSD	Edna Staniszewski, COA-HHSD
Willie Williams, COA-HHSD	

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

- Ani Colt – 55+ Affordable mixed housing.
- John Woodley – Low income housing and accommodations. Different issues affecting public meetings.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2014 MEETING.

- Commissioner Tom Coopwood made a motion to accept the minutes.
- Commissioner Jennifer Scott seconded the motion.
- Motion passed 7-0. Commissioner Martin Kareithi abstained due to not being present at last month's meeting.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A) Presentations:

- i. Aging Services Council (Amy Temperley, Chair).
 1. Continuum of Support for Health and Wellness.
 2. Services and Supports for Aging in Place.
 3. Services and Supports for Caregivers.
 4. Collaborative Initiatives of the Aging Services Council.
 5. New Resource guide to be launched in the next few weeks.
 6. Advance Care Planning – currently recruiting to create component.
- ii. AARP (Jessica Lemann, Associate State Director of Outreach & Advocacy).
 1. A network of Age-Friendly Communities.
 2. Currently 80,000 members in Austin.

3. To help people live easily and comfortably in their homes and communities as they age.
 4. Website at www.aarp.org/tx to search for resources and programs available.
 5. Retirement planning sessions available throughout the year.
- iii. “Customer Service Practices and Working with Older Adults” (Mary Teeters of Meals on Wheels and Jill Findley of Area Agency on Aging).

- Presented Four (4) Topics to the group

1. Hearing Loss

- a. Amplification does not mean clarity.
- b. Consonants are higher pitched, lower the pitch of your voice.
- c. It takes a little longer to process information.

2. Cognitive Challenges

- a. Support and reassure.
- b. Tone of voice is important even if you are frustrated.
- c. Repetition is important.
- d. Redirect and discuss one direct statement at a time.

3. Visual Deficits

- a. Older adults are dealing with contrast sensitivity.
- b. Some colors together are not distinctive.
- c. Increase font sizes.

4. Summary

- a. Between 2000-2010, the Austin MSA had a 53% jump in the 65 and older population, making it the second-fastest growing population.
- b. A projection of 700,000 by 2040.

B) Adopt the 2015 Meeting Calendar.

- Change September date to the 9th.
- Commissioner Tom Coopwood made a motion to accept the calendar with the revision.
- Commissioner Jennifer Scott seconded the motion.
- Motion passed 8-0.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A) Commission Work Plan – Standing Item.

- Reviewed the Work Plan by the working group.
- Board to discuss and take possible action at next month’s meeting.
- No action taken.

5. STAFF BRIEFINGS

- A) Overview of City of Austin Commission on Seniors.
 - Alzheimer and Caregiver month.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Review the Work Plan.
- B. Request for identified entities to present at future meetings:
 - i. Asian Community
 - ii. African American Community
 - iii. Housing works
 - iv. AustinUp!
 - v. Legal representative

ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting adjourned at 1:30p.m.