



**REGULAR MEETING
Approved Minutes**

The Commission On Seniors convened in a regular meeting on WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2015, Boards and Commissions, First floor in room 1101, 301 W. 2nd Street in Austin, Texas.

Chair Dan Pruett called the meeting to order at 12:15p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

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

Staff in Attendance:

Edna Staniszewski, COA-HHSD

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

John Woodley – Accessible public meeting

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 8, 2015 MEETING.

- Commissioner Tom Coopwood motioned to accept the MARCH April 8, 2015 minutes with the addition to the Citizen Communications of Mr. Woodley.
- Commissioner Joyce Lauck seconded the motion.
- Motion passed 8-0-0.

3. NEW BUSINESS

- Review and approve recommendations regarding Tax Options 1, 2, and 3.

Commissioners Martin Kareithi and Jennifer Scott abstained from this item.

A.

- i. Property Tax Freeze
 - Commissioner Tom Coopwood requests a sentence or two to be added to the letter being created to say specific language regarding the freeze and the impact to the older adults.
 - Within these options there could be tweaks that can be made.
- ii. Circuit Breaker/Sliding Scale
 - This option does take into account the income.
- iii. Property Tax Deferral
 - Request for Mary Teeters to insert information regarding the AISD district taxes being frozen when a person reaches the age of 65 to documents.

- Also, include information on how we had the 4 options but opted for 3. Body of letter should reference what Commissioner Coopwood mentioned.
- Commissioner Joyce Lauck motioned to accept the additions and revisions.
- Commissioner Jacqueline Angel seconded the motion.
- Motion passed 6-2-0.

B. Review and approve Internal Review and Work Plan.

- i. Add to #3: “objectives/goals to invite”
 - Latino Quality of life – could be inserted in this section or the body of the work plan.
 - Drive a Senior
- ii. Expand on the new year goals
 - Improving community involvement by organizing a meeting in the community so the public could attend and the Commission could receive input.
 - Connecting with AustinUp!; having public forums
 - Affordable Housing
 - Transportation
 - Home Renovations
 - Property tax issues
 - Linking into Social Services – PACE program
 - Seniors who are veterans and lack of resources
- iii. Send everyone electronic documents for final review and submit their revisions; include a deadline.
- iv. A suggestion to word it as “recommended guidance of organizations”.
 - Commissioner Tom Coopwood motioned to approve the annual review and work plan with the modifications stated from the group and to include the revised date to go through the end of May 2015.
 - Commissioner Jacqueline Angel seconded the motion.
 - Motion passed 8-0-0.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. Commission Work Plan – Standing Item.

- i. No items for discussion
 - No action taken.

5. STAFF BRIEFINGS

A. Overview of City of Austin Commission on Seniors.

- i. HHSD budget presenting next month.
- ii. We have received notification of one appointment.

- iii. Question to follow up – Will outside entities appointees be required to do the training as well? Staff liaison to follow up.
- iv. The training will be required from all appointees from the Council members.
- v. No action taken

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Drive A Senior Program
- Latino Quality of Life
- HHS Budget office

ADJOURNMENT

- Commissioner Jennifer Scott motioned to adjourn.
- Commissioner Joyce Lauck seconded the motion.
- Motion passed 8-0.
- Meeting adjourned at 1:10p.m.