



**REGULAR MEETING
Approved Minutes**

The Commission On Seniors convened in a regular meeting on WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2015, Mayors Ceremonial Room, Second floor in room 2005, 301 W. 2nd Street in Austin, Texas.

Chair Dan Pruett called the meeting to order at 12:10p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

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

Board Members Absent:

Cecilia Crossley	Fred Lugo	Monica Saavedra
------------------	-----------	-----------------

Staff in Attendance:

Edna Staniszewski, COA-HHSD	Kymerley Maddox, COA-HHSD
-----------------------------	---------------------------

Introduction of the board members.

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

None.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MAY 13, 2015 MEETING.

- Commissioner Jacqueline Angel made a motion to approve minutes
- Commissioner Joyce Lauck seconded the motion.
- Motion passed 8-0-0.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Health and Human Services FY 2016 Budget Process (Kymerley Maddox, Chief Administrative Officer).

- i. Presentation included:
 - a. Overview on budget: sources and uses
 - b. Cost Drivers
 - c. Unmet Needs
 - d. Performance Gaps
 - e. Horizon Issues

- ii. Questions presented by Commissioners:
 - a. What was the total budget?
 - i. Overall is \$74 million, social service and Ryan White is \$29 million.
 - b. Does that health piece include immunizations?
 - i. Yes, Shots for Tots (Big Shots)
 - ii. Recently added high risk program for Hep A, Hep B, Mono, HPV, Pneumonia, and Shingles
 - c. Does it cover low-income seniors?
 - i. The Big Shots program could include seniors.
 - d. Could a low income senior come in and receive a vaccination for shingles and get it for free?
 - i. We are “pay if you can”; if you can’t pay and are not covered by insurance then we are your safety net.
 - ii. Those services should be free with Medicare.
 - iii. If they are not sure of where to go, they can call 211 or 311 and they will direct them.
 - e. What is the age requirement, does it cover 55+ or 65+, especially those who aren’t old enough to get Medicare?
 - i. Ms. Maddox will inquire on that information and will forward response to the liaison for distribution.
 - f. How are social services contracts different from community services?
 - i. The community services are the neighborhood centers as well as several other services such as food pantry, clothing, job readiness, and counseling, ...
 - g. Are these programs adults only?
 - i. No, we do have senior programs that are offered at the centers and coordinate with PARD on some programs.
 - h. Social services contracts include seniors, which programs?
 - i. We followed the life continuum and part of that did include seniors, could get a listing of that.
 - i. Forecast, since the department adopted the life continuum is there a practice for age group or populations with a shift in demographics; how does it impact the community.
 - i. Funding is static. We see the trend of increasing and decreasing in another area unless the funding has changed.
 - j. The piece about General fund vs. Grant money, do you use any of the grants funding to apply to social services or are they only funded through general funds?
 - i. Most of the social services, the human services side, are in general funds and the grants are in the public health services with a few overlapping.

- k. Under chronic disease management there are many evidence based programs out there especially for seniors; fall prevention, diabetes, smoking, and heart disease. What types of chronic disease prevention are tailored to the senior population that are offered through your chronic disease?
 - i. Tobacco is mainly targeting the younger age group, but diabetes is not age specific. The diabetes is a general education class they attend and they keep track of them that way.
- l. Is it possible to get a listing of the demographics (diabetes) that are most participating in?
 - i. Ms. Maddox will ask department for information and will submit to liaison for distribution.
- m. Permanent supportive housing. The funding is to keep them in housing not to get housing. Does it include contracting piece? All of permanent housing is contracted.
- n. Are there mental health services provided at the neighborhood centers?
 - i. We have social workers only, not psychiatrist.
- o. Council is considering a 5% budget cut across the board, is that to the existing social service contract?
 - i. It is not across the board, we had to submit proposals. Yes, social service is on the list. We submitted proposals for 5% and 2.5% reductions.
- p. What can you say were programs that didn't get cut?
 - i. Some of them were in the public health services.
- q. Were the proposal cuts all in social services?
 - i. No, there was a long list. Some of the proposal was eliminations of some programs.
- r. One of the programs specifically for the homeless veterans, is there any case management?
 - i. City owns ARCH but Front Steps maintains it.
- s. At the municipality level why the 5% decline?
 - i. Looking at the tax homestead exemption and decline in funding.

B. Drive a Senior Program (Janet Allen, SW Executive Director)

- i. Helps people stay independent.
- ii. Currently, there are 7 service areas: North Central Austin, Northeast Austin, Southwest Austin, South Austin, West Austin, Elgin, and Round Rock/Pflugerville.
- iii. Depends on volunteers.
- iv. They have 4 vans that surrounding areas use for 4 hours and they have specific location routes.
- v. Capital Metro is looking into grocery type shuttles.
- vi. If Drive a Senior can share data to the Mobility office in Capital Metro, that would be helpful.

- vii. Do physicians track their clients or ask how they were able to get to their visit?
 - o Not something that is being tracked right now.
 - o Maybe physicians could help with funding.
- viii. Suggestions to target UT students as volunteers.

4. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Commission Work Plan – Standing Item.
 - i. No items at this time.
 - No action taken.

5. STAFF BRIEFINGS

- A. Overview of City of Austin Commission on Seniors.
 - i. Possible presentation from Ms. Kennedy from Representative Celia Israel.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Transportation
- B. Latino Quality of Life

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 1:35pm.