



REGULAR MEETING

The Commission On Seniors convened in a regular meeting on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2015, Meals on Wheels, 3227 E. 5th St, Room 232, Austin, Texas 78704.

Chair Dan Pruett called the meeting to order at 12:05p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Janee Briesemeister	Joyce Lauck	Jennifer Scott
Erica Garcia-Pittman	Fred Lugo	Sally VanSickle
David Gray	Mary Milam	Peter Varteressian
Martin Kareithi	Dan Pruett	

Board Members Absent:

Thomas McDowell

Staff in Attendance:

Edna Staniszewski, COA-HHSD

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

- A. Jennie Kennedy – Chief of Staff for Representative Celia Israel
- Rulemaking – post session

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

- Commissioner Joyce Lauck made a motion to accept the minutes.
- Commissioner Peter Varteressian seconded the motion.
- Motion passed 9-0.

Commissioners Erica Garcia-Pittman and Fred Lugo joined the dais at 12:17pm

3. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discuss and/or amend Bylaws.

- City Clerk’s office submitted more revisions.
- Vice-Chair David Gray made a motion to have the 10 district representatives vote on proposals and that the other members abstain except in the case of the Mayor’s representative who can act as a tie breaker.
- After some discussion, Chair Dan Pruett asked "Is there a second?"; no second was obtained from the proposed motion.

- Motion will not be considered.
- Bylaws moved to next month's agenda for further review and staff liaison to add additional language.

B. Discuss and elect two members for the Joint Inclusion Committee.

- Chair Dan Pruett made a motion to elect Commissioner Janee Briesemeister as the representative for Commission on Seniors.
- Commissioner Erica Garcia-Pittman seconded the motion.
- Motion passed 11-0.
- Commissioner Peter Varteressian made a motion to elect himself as the alternate representative for Commission on Seniors.
- Vice-Chair David Gray seconded the motion.
- Motion passed 11-0.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. Commission Work Plan – Standing Item.

- i. Review and discuss Work Plan.
 - Discussion to target transportation, homeless veterans, AARP, and Access to technology.
 - A suggestion was made to target one or two goals until completed then move to the next goals outlined.
 - No action taken.
- ii. Transportation.
 - Basic transportation – need funding.
 - Send an invitation to Capital Metro
 - Chair Dan Pruett appointed Commissioner Martin Kareithi to head the transportation working group.
- iii. Homeless Veterans.
 - A presentation from ECHO scheduled next month.
 - Send an invitation to the Commission of Veterans Affairs.
 - Send an invitation to State Veterans Services.
 - i. Include in request:
 1. What services are available and what aren't?
 2. Gaps in the City of Austin/Travis County.
- iv. AARP – Livable City of Austin.
 - Staff liaison to gather more information from AARP.
 - Angela Atwood, from AustinUP is attending an aging friendly conference. Extend an invitation for an update.
 - No action taken.

- v. Access to Technology.
 - Google is trying to have technology available to all homes and is assisting the elderly.
 - How does the City have their website setup and accessible to the general public?
 - i. Easy access
 - ii. Mobile apps
 - iii. Device and technology
 - No action taken.

5. STAFF BRIEFINGS

A. Overview of City of Austin Commission on Seniors.

i. Community Meeting.

- Location of the community meeting next month is available at the following locations: Rosewood-Zaragosa Community Center, South Austin Community Center, Council Member Don Zimmerman's office, or the YMCA.
- Commissioner Erica Garcia-Pittman made a motion to have meeting at the YMCA.
- Commissioner Joyce Lauck seconded the motion.
- Motion passed 11-0.

ii. Presentation by ECHO in September.

- Ann Howard, Executive Director from ECHO, will be available to present in September.
- No action taken.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- A. AARP
- B. Commission of Veterans Affairs.
- C. State Veterans Services.
- D. AustinUP
- E. Capital Metro
- F. Public works – regarding sidewalks
- G. Representative from Google.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 1:40pm.