



**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Meeting Held Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
City Hall, 301 WEST SECOND STREET, in the Council Chambers,  
301 West Second Street, Austin. TX

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**Call Meeting to Order at 4:04 pm.**

*Committee Members Present:*

1. Council Member Ora Houston, Chair
2. Council Member Kathie Tovo, Vice Chair
3. Council Member Delia Garza
4. Council Member Ellen Troxclair

**Approval of Minutes**

**1. Review of minutes for the committee meeting held Tuesday, December 2, 2014 and Monday, March 16th, 2015.**

*Mayor Pro Tem Tovo moved approval of the Minutes of March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015, seconded by Council Member Garza, motion passes 3-0.*

**Citizens Communications: General**

**2. Speakers signed up prior to the meeting being called to order will each be allowed three minutes to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.**

*No citizens were signed up for General Citizen's communications. There were 12 speakers signed up to speak on Applied Behavioral Analysis benefits, agenda item #3.*

**Items for Committee Consideration**

**3. Approve a resolution directing the City Manager to incorporate Applied Behavioral Analysis benefits as part of the City employee benefits package.**

*The Committee heard presentations from panelists including Jennifer Saavedra, Jacquie Benestante, Lisa Whitted, Judith Ursitti, and Jon Hokenyos. Afterwards Mark Washington, Director of the City of Austin Human Resources Department, and Stephanie Beach, Consultant, provided a short PowerPoint presentation. Mark proposed evaluating changes during the budget process. The Committee asked for follow up information from staff including AISD data. Council Member Garza made concluding remarks in support of autism coverage and "incorporated into the budget".*

**4. Staff presentation on the Asian American Quality of Life (AAQOL) Initiative and possible action recommending approval to the City Council of an interlocal agreement with the University of Texas to conduct the AAQOL study (Rey Arellano, Assistant City Manager).**

*Assistant City Manager Rey Arellano presented on city's Asian American Initiative seeking support for and Interlocal Agreement before sending to the full Council. A special meeting will be called.*

**5. Staff briefing on City of Austin efforts regarding boarding homes (Carl Smart, Austin Code Department; Paul Tomasovic, Division Manager, Code; Jerry Rusthoven, Manager, Planning, Development & Review; David Lopez, Chief Sanitarian, Health and Human Services Department).**

*Carl Smart, Director of the Code Department, presented on the city's boarding home efforts. Joyce Bryant and Joan Bartz spoke during Citizens Communications; Joyce wanted to know if there were going to be "spacing" regulations. Council Member Tovo asked for a timeline on a draft Ordinance. The Committee asked for AFD, EMS and 3-1-1 data.*

**6. Consider agenda items for next regular meeting, scheduled for 3:00 pm on Monday, May 4th, 2015, or at the call of the committee chair.**

*Some of the items discussed by the Committee members for the May 4<sup>th</sup> meeting included; Autism, "Rogue" Homes, Sobriety Center, Food Deserts, and a circus animal device ordinance.*

*Other topics mentioned during the March 16, 2015 HHS Committee included;*

Council Member Delia Garza:

- Food deserts;
- Healthy foods in convenience stores;
- Access to health and wellness services;
- Early childhood development.

Council Member Ellen Troxclair:

- Food insecurity, food banks, consistent access to healthy foods;
- Preventative health care;
- Temporary food permit fees;
- Women's and children's shelter.

Council Member Kathie Tovo:

- Mobile nurses;
- Creative ways to address food insecurity issues;
- Sobriety center;
- Education, joint use of AISD facilities;
- Permanent supportive housing;
- Youth programs;
- Banning painful devices in circuses.

Council Member Ora Houston:

- Women's reproductive health;
- Behavioral health services;
- Prenatal care;
- Disproportionate levels of certain diseases in minorities;
- Food deserts and lack of primary healthcare east of Hwy 130.

Adjourn at 6:50 am.

The minutes were approved on this the 4th day of May 2015 on Council Member Garza's motion, Council Member Troxclair's second on a 3:0 vote with Mayor Pro Tem Tovo off the dais.