



**COMMISSION ON SENIORS
APPROVED MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
(January 13, 2016)**

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

Vice Chair, David Gray, called the Board Meeting to order at 12:10 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

David Gray, Vice Chair	Fred Lugo	Jennifer Scott
Janee Briesemeister	Martin Kareithi	Peter Varteressian
Joyce Lauck	Thomas McDowell	Sally Van Sickle

Board Members not in Attendance:

Dan Pruett, Chair	Erica Garcia-Pittman
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Staff in Attendance:

Edna Staniszewski, COA HHSD

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

- a) Mary Teeters – AustinUp! Focus Group Update
 - AustinUp held a meeting yesterday on Age friendly community
 - Discussions on Age friendly businesses
 - Main goal was to gather information
- b) John Woodley – Housing
 - Eviction of the elderly who have a caretaker living with them. Caretaker is being considered a guest and in violation of lease agreement.
 - Item to be added for discussion to the Age Friendly City working group.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 9, 2015 MEETING.

- Commissioner Peter Varteressian made a motion to accept the minutes with the following revisions:
 - Revise description in item 2; first bullet, regarding the change to the word “hire”.
 - Revise item 3A in the section under Transportation Working group; change spelling to read “Annelese Jones from Capital Metro/Office of Mobility Management”
- Commissioner Martin Kareithi seconded the motion.
- Motion passed 9-0.

3. NEW BUSINESS

- None at this time.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. Commission Work Plan – Standing Item

- i. Mary Teeters discussed the work plan in progress.
 - Update in the work plan includes information regarding the two working groups.
 - The presentation from the LBJ School is included as well.
 - Is there a way to communicate and update the Council on a regular basis? The staff liaison has submitted an email to the City Clerk's office regarding request. The staff will send a response to the board when information is received.
 - Commissioner Kareithi requested the staff liaison to send out the Annual report submitted last year to the board. Also, the information can be located in the City's website under the Commission on Seniors site.

A. Updates from Working Groups

- i. Transportation (Commissioners: Kareithi, Lauck, Scott, Gray, Briesemeister; and Mary Teeters)
 - Trying to gather information from Capital Metro/Office of Mobility on what requests, challenges, and needs that they are receiving to serve folks and older adults and people with disabilities.
 - Did not meet in December.
 - Next meeting is on Tuesday, the 19th, at Capital Metro 3-4:30pm.
 - Two Drive a Senior group representatives will be there (Representing Northeast and Southwest groups).
 - Sent an invitation to the City of Austin Transportation department. Some of the new members have not heard them yet. Gathering information on who they serve, how many, how often, and costs. What are the challenges and successes?
 - Capital Metro has presented a process of what they will look like in the next 10 years for 2025. There is a survey that you are able to fill out and enter information of your concerns.
- ii. Age Friendly City (Commissioners Briesemeister, Van Sickle, Scott, Gray, Garcia-Pittman; Angela Attwood and Teresa Ferguson from AustinUp!; Jessica Lemann and Carla Penny from AARP; and Mary Teeters)
 - Met on December 11th.
 - Correct title of working group should be "Age Friendly City".
 - Group has broken down to subgroups along the 8 domains of livability which are:
 - Outdoor spaces and buildings
 - Transportation

- Housing
 - Social participation
 - Respect and social inclusion
 - Civic participation and employment
 - Communication and information
 - Community support and health services
- The subgroup for Transportation contains the same members as the Transportation working group so there won't be any overlapping.
- The timeline will describe what we are doing and when to discuss with the Council members.
- Commissioner Briesemeister to send staff liaison and staff will forward information for the board to review.
- Draft to present to board in March and then present to Council in June.
- Next meeting scheduled at the AARP office on Friday at 7:30am.

5. STAFF BRIEFINGS

A. Overview of City of Austin Commission on Seniors

- i. Calendar
 - Discussed dates the boards and commissions room is not available.
 - Staff liaison to add item to next month's agenda to discuss location and provide a list of sites.
- ii. Board update
 - Notified board of the two (2) openings due to resignations from Commissioner Mary Milam and Commissioner Ray Cabrera.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Commissioner Gray sent out some proposals for the board to review. The board will review and if they wish to second one of the item(s), they will forward information to the staff liaison to add to the agenda.
- Capital Metro on Para-transit
- John Eastman, Sidewalk Master Plan.
 - i. Staff to follow up on deadline and information to February's meeting.
- Staff to include the listing of previous future agenda items on minutes so we don't lose track of items discussed.
 - 1. Texas Veterans Commission
 - 2. Hispanic Quality of Life
 - 3. Veteran's Affair Office
 - 4. Google representative
 - 5. State Veterans Services.
 - 6. Foundation Communities
 - 7. Affordable Housing

8. Austin Energy – Weatherization and home repair. Chair Dan Pruett will pass on information as to when they can come in to present to the board.
9. Home renovation for seniors – Commissioner Martin Kareithi will send Chair Dan Pruett and Edna Staniszewski information for future item.

ADJOURNMENT

- Commissioner Martin Kareithi motioned to adjourn meeting
- Commissioner Jennifer Scott seconded the motion.
- Meeting adjourned at 1:10pm.