



**COMMISSION ON SENIORS
MEETING MINUTES**

**REGULAR
(October 11, 2017)**

The Commission on Seniors convened a regular meeting at the Austin City Hall, Boards and Commissions Room, 301 West 2nd Street, Austin, TX 78701

Chair, Janee Briesemeister, called the Board Meeting to order at 12:04p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

<i>Janee Briesemeister, Chair</i>	<i>Natalie Cagle</i>	<i>Adam Hauser</i>	<i>Emily De Maria Nicola</i>
<i>Peter Varteressian, Vice-Chair</i>	<i>Erica Garcia-Pittman</i>	<i>Billy Jackson</i>	<i>Sandra Serna</i>
<i>Jacqueline Angel</i>	<i>Karen Grampp</i>	<i>Martin Kareithi</i>	<i>Sally Van Sickle</i>
<i>Patricia Bordie</i>		<i>Fred Lugo</i>	

Board Members not in Attendance:

Josue Guillen

Staff in Attendance:

Laura Williamson, Austin Public Health
Elena Smart, Austin Public Health

The board introduced themselves.

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

A. No items of business.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR COMMISSION ON SENIORS
September 13, 2017 MEETING**

- Vice Chair Varteressian motioned to pass the minutes, with minor corrections.
- Commissioner Serna seconded the motion.
- Motion passed 13-0. Commissioner Garcia-Pittman was off the dais.

3. ANNOUCEMENTS

A. Commissioner Angel was named one of the Top 50 Influencers in Aging in 2017 by the Next Avenue. The “Influencers” were nominated by third parties and represent thought leaders in aging across the country. The Commission congratulated her and commended her for her dedication.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Presentation and discussion regarding Aging 2.0 (Diana Deaton, Ambassador, Aging 2.0).
- No actions taken.
- B. Presentation and discussion regarding City of Austin, Public Health Department's Approved Fiscal Year 2018 Budget (John Miller, Budgeting Office, Austin Public Health).
- No actions taken.
- C. Presentation and discussion regarding Capital Metro's Connections 2025 Plan and proposed service changes to take effect June 2018 (Lawrence Deeter, Senior Planner, Capital Metro).
- Commissioner Grampp motioned to create a Resolution regarding the Capital Metro proposed route changes, which asks the board to prioritize retaining routes and stops that serve the needs of seniors and of those workers who serve the needs of seniors, including access to health care, medical, emergency, and social services, as well as extend the grandfathering period for displaced clients beyond 90 days, and expand customer outreach, regarding customer education, on using Cap Metro system to help seniors and others overcome perceived barriers to using the fixed route system.
 - Commissioner Hauser seconded the motion.
 - Motioned passed 12-0, Commissioner Kareithi abstained, with Commissioner Angel off the dais.
- D. Discussion and possible action on Rebekah Baines Johnson Tower redevelopment (Janee Briesemeister).
- Commissioner Van Sickle motioned to pass an amended resolution on the RBJ Tower redevelopment that supports the redevelopment, asks Council to consider a public-private partnership to establish a Neighborhood Clinic and Community Center, in collaboration with the Policy Research Project at the LBJ School of Public Affairs, and recommends that a range of social, healthcare, and multi-generational services be provided on-site. Chair Briesemeister, or another designated commissioner, will testify at the hearing on October 19th, 2017.
 - Commissioner Serna seconded the motion.
 - Motion passed 12-0, Commissioner Garcia-Pittman abstained, with Commissioner Angel off the dais.
- E. Discussion regarding Commission input into the Bond Advisory Taskforce (Janee Briesemeister).
- Vice-Chair Varteressian motioned to adopt recommendations to target outreach to seniors or organizations that serve seniors, to include serving the needs of seniors in its evaluation of items to include in the bond package, and to allocate at least \$18 million for the Home Repair Program. The recommendations will be presented to the Bond Advisory Taskforce as testimony during the next meeting.
 - Commissioner Grampp seconded the motion.
 - Motion passed 12-0, Commissioner Hauser abstained, with Commissioner Angel off the dais.
- F. Discussion on possible action on support for renaming Robert E. Lee Road (Karen Grampp).

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- Commissioner Grampp motioned to formulate a resolution that supports renaming Robert E. Lee Road, but does not provide an opinion on the possible new name.
- Commissioner Lugo seconded the motion.
- Motion passed 12-0, Commissioner Bordie abstained, with Commissioner Angel off the dais.

5. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Commission Work Plan – Standing Item. Discussion and possible action on approving Working Group Chairs and Members (Janee Briesemeister).
 - i. Discussed spreading out the working groups amongst commissioners, postponing the next working group meeting until after the November COS meeting. Chair Briesemeister requested a list of current working group members wanted by chairs. Add vote on working group members to next meeting agenda. Also requested a volunteer to create the Communication Plan draft.
- B. Updates from Working Groups – Standing Item
 - i. Transportation
 - a. No discussion
 - ii. Housing, Outdoor Spaces and Buildings
 - a. No discussion
 - iii. Social Participation, Respect and Social Inclusion, Civic Participation and Employment, Communication and Information
 - a. No Discussion
 - iv. Community Health Services
 - a. No Discussion
 - v. Age Friendly City
 - a. No Discussion
- C. Discussion and possible action regarding CodeNEXT recommendations (Janee Briesemeister)
 - i. Next meeting- vote on forwarding the CodeNEXT questions to the CodeNEXT staff. Possibly schedule a presentation for December meeting.
- D. Update on Joint Inclusion Committee – Standing Item (Janee Briesemeister)
 - i. No discussion.
- E. Update on the Equity Action Team – Standing Item (Emily De Maria Nicola)
 - i. Commissioner De Maria Nicola will follow up with the Equity office before the November meeting.

6. STAFF BRIEFINGS

- A. Overview of City of Austin Commission on Seniors
 - i. The next meeting will be a working retreat with no presentations.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Working Group Chairs and Members (November)
- B. Commission Communication Strategy to City Council (November)

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- C. Commission Calendar for 2018 (November)
- D. Injury Prevention Program – Dell Seton Medical School at UT (scheduled for December)
- E. Office of Sustainability – Food Insecurity (possibly in December)
- F. Texas Veterans Commission / Veterans Affairs Office / State Veterans Services (possibly in December)
- G. CodeNEXT (possibly in December)
- H. Tax Swap (AISD) (possibly January 2018)
- I. Affordable Housing
- J. Hispanic Quality of Life
- K. Google representative
- L. Foundation Communities
- M. Austin Energy – Weatherization and home repair
- N. Home renovation for seniors
- O. Housing and resources for senior musicians and artists.
- P. Dell Medical School

ADJOURNMENT

- Commissioner Garcia-Pittman motioned to adjourn the meeting.
- Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion.
- Motion passed 13-0 with Commissioner Angel off the dais.
- Meeting adjourned at 2:04pm.