



**COMMISSION ON SENIORS
MEETING MINUTES**

**REGULAR
(January 10, 2018)**

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 12:05p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

<i>Janee Briesemeister, Chair</i>	<i>Karen Grampp</i>	<i>Fred Lugo</i>	<i>Sally Van Sickle</i>
<i>Jacqueline Angel</i>	<i>Adam Hauser</i>	<i>Emily Nicola</i>	<i>Peter Varteressian, Vice-Chair</i>
<i>Patricia Bordie</i>	<i>Martin Kareithi</i>		

Board Members not in Attendance:

Josue Guillen, Natalie Cagle, Erica Garcia-Pittman, Billy Jackson

Staff in Attendance:

Michelle Friedman, Austin Public Health

The Commission introduced themselves.

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

- A. Gus Pena. Mr. Pena provided a comment card to Chair Briesemeister indicating the need for: increased affordable housing for seniors, healthcare and programs for seniors.
- B. Diana Deaton. Ms. Deaton provided two maps of demographic data from the 2010 Census, illustrating the location of seniors in the greater Austin/Travis County metropolitan statistical area. Ms. Deaton provided these maps to Teresa Ferguson of AustinUP, so that they can be accessed by the Commissioners.

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

- Commissioner Hauser motioned to pass the Minutes.
- Vice Chair Varteressian seconded the motion.
- Motion passed 10-0.

3. ANNOUCEMENTS

- A. Chair Briesemeister announced that Sandra Serna has resigned from the Commission on Seniors.

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- B. Commissioners Briesemeister and Lugo presented the previous years' achievements of the Commission to the Travis County Commissioners Court on December 14, 2017.
 - a. The Commissioner's Court provided commitment to continue supporting the work of the Commission on Seniors. During the meeting, all Department heads from Travis County were presented.
 - b. Items of interest from Commissioners include creating an Asset Map of services provided to seniors in Austin/Travis County, and resources on emergency preparedness for seniors.
- C. Commissioner Angel informed the Commission that the second Eldercare Summit will take place on April 10, 2018, from 9am to 6pm at the LBJ Bass Lecture Hall.
 - a. The focus for 2018 of the Eldercare Summit is on Innovation in Aging. Representatives from the business community will attend, and the LBJ School will present findings from the Policy Research Proposal on "Young Hip Austin is Getting Old".

4. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Presentation and Discussion: Food Security, Office of Sustainability, Edwin Marty.
 - i. Presentation consisted of the history, implementation, and current goals of the Office of Sustainability's Food Security initiatives.
 - a. Mr. Marty will provide the Commission with an updated "State of the Food System" report, which will be published in the spring of 2018.
 - b. Mr. Marty encouraged the Commission to send representatives to the Food Policy Board meetings to ensure adequate representative of the senior community.
 - ii. Discussion, questions, and comments followed.
- B. Possible action on working group titles and members for 2018 (Janee Briesemeister).
 - i. The Commission discussed the composition and goals of the four proposed working groups.
 - ii. The Commission intends on passing a resolution during the February 14, 2018 Regular Meeting.
- C. Possible action on Equity Action Tool for Equity Office (Emily Nicola).
 - i. The Equity Action Tool was not yet available for feedback. No action taken.

5. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Commission Work Plan – Standing Item (Janee Briesemeister).
 - i. The Commission determined that the February 2018 meeting will be a working meeting without presentations.
 - ii. Staff was requested to verify with Dove Springs Recreation Center, South Austin Senior Center, or the District 6 Limited District Office to host the March 7, 2018 Meeting.
- B. Updates from Working Groups – Standing Item
 - i. Age Friendly Action Plan Implementation (Sally Van Sickle)

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- a. The working group will have their first meeting following the City staff internal discussion with Interim ACM Hensley on January 18, 2018.
- b. Jessica Lemann from AARP in Austin provided information on the feedback received from AARP on the Age Friendly Action Plan metrics. AARP provided comments on the metrics from its Public Policy division. The feedback is a suggestion, and is not required.
- c. Ms. Lemann clarified that the next opportunity to make changes to the metrics will be in October 2019 (two years following initial approval).
- d. Chair Briesemeister will circulate the comments and feedback from AARP to the Commission.
- e. The Commission will discuss planning a ceremony to commemorate Austin receiving its Age Friendly City designation certificate. The location and date are TBD.
- ii. Housing, Outdoor Spaces and Transportation (Martin Kareithi)
 - a. The next meeting will take place at Capital Metro on February 13, 2018 from 2:30-4pm.
- iii. Social Participation, Respect and Social Inclusion, Civic Participation and Employment
 - a. Commissioner Lugo will provide Chair Briesemeister with an updated schedule for the year.
- iv. Community Health Services
 - a. Commissioner Bordie will provide Chair Briesemeister with an updated schedule for the year.
- C. Update on CodeNEXT (Janee Briesemeister)
 - i. Staff informed the Commission that they have not been able to make contact with CodeNEXT staff, and will bring up this issue during the January 18, 2018 meeting with Interim ACM Hensley.
- 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. No discussion
- 6. STAFF BRIEFINGS**
 - A. Overview of City of Austin Commission on Seniors
 - i. No discussion.
- 7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**
 - A. Equity Action Tool Recommendation (February)
 - B. Working Groups Chairs and Members (February)
 - C. Consider changing Commission name to include “Quality of Life” (February)
 - D. Tax Swap (AISD) (April)
 - E. Texas Veterans Commission / Veterans Affairs Office / State Veterans Services
 - F. CodeNEXT
 - G. Affordable Housing and Home Renovation Coalition

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- H. Austin Energy – Weatherization and Home Repair
- I. Hispanic Quality of Life
- J. Google representative
- K. Foundation Communities – Tax Centers and Financial Management programs
- L. Neighborhood Housing and Community Development - Home renovation for seniors
- M. Housing and resources for senior musicians and artists.

ADJOURNMENT

- Commissioner Angel motioned to adjourn meeting.
- Commissioner Grampp seconded the motion.
- Motion passed 10-0.
- Meeting adjourned at 1:28pm.