



**COMMISSION ON SENIORS
MEETING MINUTES**

**REGULAR
(November 8, 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 12:06p.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>Patricia Bordie</i>	<i>Josue Guillen</i>	<i>Fred Lugo</i>	

Board Members not in Attendance:

Sally Van Sickle

Staff in Attendance:

Michelle Friedman, Austin Public Health
Elena Smart, Austin Public Health

The board introduced themselves.

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

- A. Michelle Newman from Silverado Memory Care in Onion Creek. Silverado focuses on Dementia Care and has experience working with cities to create dementia friendly policies and programs. Mrs. Newman volunteered her agency as a resource for the Commissioners to call upon to participate in task forces, provide educational outreach, and general input on issues covered in Domains 4, 5, 7, and 8.

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

- Commissioner Lugo motioned to pass the minutes, with minor corrections.
- Commissioner Cagle seconded the motion.
- Motion passed 14-0.

3. ANNOUCEMENTS

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- A. Commissioner Briesemeister requests that Commissioners follow up with their Council Members on the resolution submitted for RBJ.
- B. The Capital Metro resolution was presented to Council Member Kitchens.
 - a. Capital Metro held a public comment meeting on November 1st. Based on the feedback, a few changes were made to the North corridor routes.
 - b. November 15th – the Board will give another presentation and hold a vote on the connection changes scheduled for June 2018.
- C. Bond Advisory Task Force Resolution submitted and testimony given.
- D. Two vans were successfully petitioned for and received by the Parks department.
 - a. Commissioner Angel followed up with Council Member Alter.
- E. The Economic Development Ordinance, in relation to jobs for seniors, had a presentation. City Council has given out the directive, including incentives to hire seniors.
 - a. Scheduled to present to the Commission in December.
 - b. Chair Briesemeister requests that one of the Working Groups takes this issue on so the Commission will be involved in the discussion going forward.
- F. Chair Briesemeister, Vice-Chair Varteressian, and Commissioner Van Sickle met with Interim Assistant City Manager Sara Hensley about the Age Friendly Action Plan. The plan was well received. A meeting will be held on December 7th, from 8:00-9:00am, in which City Departments have been requested to provide feedback on their work as it relates to the Action Plan.
 - a. Chair Briesemeister, Vice-Chair Varteressian, and Commissioner Van Sickle as well as the members of the Age Friendly Action Plan Working Group are invited and will attend on the Commission's behalf.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Commission Calendar for 2018 (Michelle Friedman).
 - No adjustments to general meeting day and time, with exceptions for:
 - i. March 14th meeting will be moved to March 7th, due to South-by-Southwest. Location TBD.
 - ii. July meeting may be cancelled at a later date, but will remain on calendar.
 - iii. August and September meetings will be moved to a District that the Council has not yet met in due to City Hall unavailability.
 - iv. Staff liaisons will request meeting time with Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities for February 2018.
- B. Working Group membership and matters for consideration and recommendation (Janee Briesemeister).
 - General discussion on possible changes to the Working Groups, with a focus on prioritization, organization and delegation of issues that will maximize efficiency and influence.
 - i. Working Groups #5 (Civic Participation and Employment) and #6 (Communication and Information) will be combined and Commissioner Guillen added as a member.

- ii. The Age Friendly Action Plan Working Group will add Commissioner Serna.
 - iii. Working Groups are not required to meet every month in person. The members will decide amongst themselves on the frequency and format of meetings. Notify the liaison of meeting times so that a calendar may be maintained.
 - iv. Each group will determine which areas overlap groups, what information they will need from/can provide other groups, and which issues each group will take the lead on. Groups will consider how to incorporate assistance from community resources. The Commission will consider the recommendations and decide on a new working group formation.
 - v. The December 7th meeting with the Interim Assistant City Manager Hensley:
 1. Before meeting – Groups are to decide on areas of focus and create a recommendation list to present at the meeting.
 2. After meeting – each group is tasked with deciding strategies, priorities, and how to better align their focus with the City and Council.
 - vi. Group members should consider joining Task Forces and Boards in order to have more visibility and influence.
 - vii. The Commission should stay informed about the work of the Anti-Displacement Task Force.
- C. Implementation of the Age Friendly Action Plan (Janee Briesemeister).
- No action taken, pending the December 7th meeting with Interim ACM Hensley.
- D. Commission Communication Strategy to City Council (Janee Briesemeister).
- In an effort to communicate with their Council members on a regular basis, Commissioners will contact their Council Member's staff for guidance on how to best notify the Council member of Commission updates. A handout with guidance was distributed by Commissioner Briesemeister.
 - Commissioner Guillen offered to lead this initiative; however due to work obligations he may need to request a waiver of the absence policy from his sponsoring Council Member.
 - Add a standing item to the agenda, at the end of every meeting, on how to summarize the meeting for relay to Council.

5. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Commission Work Plan – Standing Item (Janee Briesemeister).
 - i. No actions taken.
- B. Updates from Working Groups – Standing Item
 - i. Transportation
 - a. No discussion
 - ii. Housing, Outdoor Spaces and Buildings
 - a. No discussion

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- iii. Social Participation, Respect and Social Inclusion, Civic Participation and Employment, Communication and Information
 - a. Commissioner Guillen added as member.
- iv. Community Health Services
 - a. No Discussion
- v. Age Friendly City
 - a. Commissioner Serna added as member.
- C. Discussion and possible action regarding CodeNEXT recommendations (Janee Briesemeister)
 - i. No actions taken.
- 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 actions taken.

6. STAFF BRIEFINGS

- A. Overview of City of Austin Commission on Seniors
 - i. Appointment of Executive Liaison from Austin Public Health – Adrienne Sturup, Acting Assistant Director of Austin Public Health, Health Equity and Community Engagement Division
 - a. The Executive Liaison will attend 4 Commission meetings a year. Which meetings TBD.
- B. Time to make a report to Commissioner’s Court
 - i. In the future, there will be more designated “Working Meetings” without presentations
 - ii. Future presentations will be held to time limits in order to allow for more Commission discussion.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Economic Development Department (December)
- B. Injury Prevention Program – Dell Seton Medical School at UT (December)
- C. Working Groups Chairs and Members (December)
- D. Feedback from December 7 meeting with Interim ACM Hensley (December)
- E. Consider changing Commission name to include “Quality of Life”
- F. Tax Swap (AISD)
- G. Office of Sustainability – Food Insecurity
- H. Texas Veterans Commission / Veterans Affairs Office / State Veterans Services
- I. CodeNEXT
- J. Affordable Housing
- K. Hispanic Quality of Life
- L. Google representative
- M. Foundation Communities
- N. Austin Energy – Weatherization and home repair

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O. Home renovation for seniors

P. Housing and resources for senior musicians and artists.

ADJOURNMENT

- Commissioner Garcia-Pittman motioned to adjourn meeting.
- Commissioner Grampp seconded the motion.
- Motion passed 14-0.
- Meeting adjourned at 2:03pm.

DRAFT