



**COMMISSION ON SENIORS
MEETING MINUTES**

**REGULAR
(November 14, 2018)**

The Commission on Seniors convened a regular meeting at the Anderson Mill Limited District Building 11500 El Salido Parkway, Austin, TX 78750

Board Members in Attendance:

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Janee Briesemeister, Chair</i> | <i>Natalie Cagle</i> | <i>Karen Grampp</i> | <i>Jayant Sheth</i> |
| <i>Peter Varteressian, Vice-Chair</i> | <i>Emily De Maria Nicola</i> | <i>Billy Jackson</i> | <i>Sally Van Sickle</i> |
| <i>Patricia Bordie</i> | <i>Erica Garcia-Pittman</i> | <i>Fred Lugo</i> | |

Board Members not in Attendance:

Jacqueline Angel Adam Hauser Martin Kareithi

Staff in Attendance:

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

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

The Commission introduced themselves.

I. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

- A. Teresa Ferguson, Austin Up – input on item IV. A.
- B. Michelle Friedman, Austin Public Health – input on item V. B. iv.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR COMMISSION ON SENIORS SEPTEMBER 11, 2018 AND OCTOBER 10, 2018 REGULAR MEETINGS

- A. Minutes Approved.
 - i. Moved by Vice-Chair Varteressian
 - ii. Seconded by Commissioner Sheth
 - iii. Minutes approved 8-0-3. Commissioners Lugo, Brodie, and Cagle off the dais.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Market Research on Loneliness in Adults 55+ (Sally Van Sickle)
 - i. Commissioner Van Sickle received an email recruiting focus group members for December. If you know any eligible seniors, please let them know. The email will be forwarded.
- B. Senior Games 2018 (Janee Briesemeister)
 - i. Chair Briesemeister attended the Presentation of Recognition and volunteered at

some of the games. David Crabb, PARD, would like this to become an annual event.

- C. Coordinator Position (Janee Briesemeister)
 - i. Cassandra Deleon, hiring manager, has received 23 applications and will begin the 3-part interviews for the position. If you are interested on being on one of the interview panels, contact Chair Briesemeister.
- D. Leadership Austin (Janee Briesemeister)
 - i. Fellowship program that recruits retired citizens to mentor organizations. They have already met with Austin UP and are requesting a meeting with the Commission or a Work Group.
 - Chair Briesemeister will forward the contact information to the Social Participation, Respect and Social Inclusion, Civic Participation and Employment Working Group.
- E. Boards and Commissions Work Sessions (Janee Briesemeister)
 - i. The Mobility Commission is adding a standing agenda item for the Boards and Commission group.
 - ii. Follow-up on the Dockless Mobility Resolution pending.
- F. Equity Office Public Forum (Emily De Maria Nicola)
 - i. December 7, 2018, all day.
 - ii. The forum will include panels of City staff who worked on the Tool and Assessment.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Age Friendly Business Certification, Patrick Buchta, Candice Erickson, Jarrod Wise, Better Business Bureau
 - i. Questions and discussion followed.
 - ii. Michelle will forward the digital presentation to the Commission.
- B. Senior property tax exemptions (Janee Briesemeister)
 - i. Review of Resolution adopted at the Mobility and Housing Working Group.
 - Discussion, questions, and edits followed.
 - Motion to adopt Resolution, as amended.
 - Moved by Commissioner Grampp
 - Seconded by Vice-Chair Varteressian
 - Motion passed 11-0
 - ii. Work Group meeting day is changing. TBD.
- C. Age Friendly Austin work plan (Janee Briesemeister)
 - i. No discussion.

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Commission Work Plan – Standing Item.
 - i. No discussion.
- B. Updates from Working Groups – Standing Item
 - i. Age Friendly Action Plan Implementation Working Group
 - No discussion.
 - ii. Transportation, Housing and Outdoor Spaces Working Group (Peter Varteressian)

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- The workgroup discussed taxes and heard a presentation on Phase 3 of the Strategic Mobility Plan from Daniel Brooks, City of Austin Planner.
 - Daniel Brooks has been invited to present to the Commission on Seniors in December.
 - An updated version of the plan, with added bike lanes and sidewalks, will be emailed to the Commission upon completion.
 - Discussion and questions followed.
- iii. Social Participation, Respect and Social Inclusion, Civic Participation and Employment Working Group (Fred Lugo)
- The group will receive a presentation in December from the Marbenn Cayetano, CTM, on the Imagine Austin website functionality.
 - Discussion and questions followed.
 - The Commission will request a presentation from Marbenn Cayetano in December.
 - The other work groups should submit, as soon as possible, anything else that the Asset Map should include.
- iv. Community Support and Health Services Working Group (Patricia Bordie)
- The group discussed the most important qualities and qualifications for health workers and drafting the language for job postings. To be continued at the next meeting.
 - The group also discussed working with Commissioner Angel’s students on the Gaps in Mental Health Services for Seniors research. The final product will be presented to the Commission on Seniors, upon completion. Date TBD.
 - The Aging Services Council has added the work group’s goals and strategies to the December 6 agenda. A survey will be sent out ahead of time.
- C. Update on Joint Inclusion Committee – Standing Item (Janee Briesemeister)
- i. The group discussed the City Budget process, which is happening earlier in the year.
 - ii. The Equity Office will hold trainings in January and February 2019 around the budget process.
 - iii. Commissioner Grampp applauded the Chair and all Commissioners involved in last year’s successful budget recommendation.
- D. City of Austin Budget – Standing Item (Janee Briesemeister)
- i. No discussion.
- E. Update on Equity Action Team – Standing Item (Emily De Maria Nicola)
- i. No discussion.
 - ii. Announcement included in section III F.

VI. STAFF BRIEFINGS

- A. The No discussion.

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- A. MMCAC (January)
- B. CTM (January)
- C. Tax Swap (AISD)
- D. Equity Action Tool Recommendation
- E. Affordable Housing and Home Renovation Coalition
- F. Austin Energy and Neighborhood Housing and Community Development –
Weatherization and Home Repair
- G. Hispanic Quality of Life
- H. Google representative
- I. Housing and resources for senior musicians and artists.

ADJOURNMENT

- Commissioner Van Sickle motioned to adjourn
- Commissioner Grampp seconded the motion.
- Motion passed 11-0.
- Meeting adjourned at 1:57pm.