



**COMMISSION ON SENIOR  
MEETING MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2020**

The Commission on Seniors convened a Regular Meeting via Videoconferencing.

**Board Members in Attendance:** Chair, *Janee Briesemeister, Adam Hauser, Amy Temperley, Billy Jackson, Diana Spain, Emily De Maria Nicola, Erica Garcia-Pittman, Fred Lugo, Jacqueline Angel, Karen Grampp, Martin Kareithi, Natalie Cagle, Patricia Bordie, and Sally Van Sickle.*

**Board Members not in Attendance:** Vice Chair, Peter Varteressian

**Staff in Attendance:** *Tabitha Taylor, Program Coordinator, Austin Public Health and Halana Kaleel, Public Health Educator II, Austin Public Health*

**Presenters:** *Jen Emerick-Cayton, Jessica Coronado, Julia Campbell, Prakhar Bajpai, Tara Connolly, and Tara Olson.*

Chair, *Janee Briesemeister* called the Board Meeting to order at 1:03pm. The Commission introduced themselves.

**CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

*None*

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE COMMISSION ON SENIORS OCTOBER 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 MEETING.**

- A. The minutes for the October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Meeting were approved on Commissioner Angel motion, Commissioner Van Sickle second on a 13-0 vote with discussed edits. Commissioner Kareithi and Vice Chair, Peter Varteressian was absent.

**II. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Commissioner Kareithi entered the dais.
- B. The Commissioners will be provided a two-hour window for their December 9<sup>th</sup> morning meeting. Please contact staff support with preference of two-hour window meeting time.

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Austin is My Home and Senior Homestead Tax Exemption, City of Austin Interdepartmental Presentation.

- i. This Interdepartmental Presentation provided updates on the August 2019 Commission on Seniors Resolution, Outreach Timeline, Austin Is My Home Initiative, and the Innovation Tool.
- B. Update: Website for Senior Activities, Commissioner Temperley and Jen Emerick-Cayton.
  - i. Commissioner Temperley and Jen Emerick-Cayton shared the intentions of the new site through demonstration [www.amightygoodtime.com](http://www.amightygoodtime.com).
- C. Resolution recommending allocation of funds to help address the increased rodent population related to COVID-19 shutdowns.
  - i. At this time this resolution has been tabled.

#### **IV. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Commission Work Plan – Standing Item
  - i. No discussion currently.
- B. Updates from Working Groups – Standing Item
  - i. Age Friendly Action Plan Implementation Working Group
    - No discussion currently.
  - ii. Transportation, Housing and Outdoor Spaces Working Group
    - This group has been meeting.
  - iii. Social Participation, Respect and Social Inclusion, Civic Participation and Employment Working Group
    - This group has been meeting.
    - Teresa Ferguson, AustinUp provided an update for this workgroup.
  - iv. Community Support and Health Services Working Group
    - This group has been meeting.
- C. Update on Joint Inclusion Committee – Standing Item (Janee Briesmeister)
  - i. No discussion currently.
- D. City of Austin Budget – Standing Item (Janee Briesmeister)
  - i. No discussion currently
- E. Update on the Equity Action Team – Standing Item (Emily De Maria Nicola)
  - i. No discussion currently.

#### **V. STAFF BRIEFINGS**

- A. Updates from Staff Liaison Tabitha Taylor, Age Friendly Austin Program Coordinator, Austin Public Health.
  - i. Staff liaison Tabitha Taylor provided updates on the COVID-19 Emergency Operation Center, Senior Taskforce and Age-Friendly Austin.

#### **VI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- A. Reimaging Public Safety Announcement.
- B. Update on Project Connect.
- C. COVID-19 updates for older adults.

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

A. Chair, Janee Briesemeister adjourned the meeting at 2:56pm. Without objection.