



**COMMISSION ON SENIORS
MEETING MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14TH, 2021**

The Commission on Seniors convened a Regular Meeting via Videoconferencing.

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

Board Members not in Attendance: *Fred Lugo*

Staff in Attendance: *Tabitha Taylor* and *Halana Kaleel*, Austin Public Health

Presenters: *Rebecca Giello* and *Katie Horstman*, Housing and Planning.

Chair, *Janee Briesemeister* called the Board Meeting to order at 1:02pm. The Commission introduced themselves.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

A. None

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE COMMISSION ON SENIORS MARCH 26th, 2021 SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

A. The minutes for the March 10th, 2021 meeting were approved on Vice Chair Varteressian motion, Commissioner Angel second on a 11-0 vote. Commissioners Kareithi, Pittman, and Lugo were absent.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. New appointee on the Commission on Seniors will begin serving in May 2021 representing District 2.
- B. Commissioner Kareithi and Garcia Pittman entered the dais.
- C. Commissioner De Maria Nicola left the dais.

3. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Discussion and possible action Commission Work Plan – Standing Item
 - i. No discussion currently.
- B. Discussion and possible action from Working Groups – Standing Item
 - i. Age Friendly Action Plan Implementation Working Group
 - No discussion currently.
 - ii. Transportation, Housing and Outdoor Spaces Working Group
 - Currently updating metrics.
 - iii. Social Participation, Respect and Social Inclusion, Civic Participation and Employment Working Group
 - Currently updating metrics.
 - iv. Community Support and Health Services Working Group

- Update on Foundation Communities Community Health Workers.
- C. Discussion and possible action from Joint Inclusion Committee – Standing Item (Chair Briesmeister)
 - i. No discussion currently.
- D. Discussion and possible action of City of Austin Budget – Standing Item (Chair Briesmeister)
 - i. No discussion currently.
- E. Discussion and possible action on the Equity Action Team – Standing Item (Commissioner De Maria Nicola)
 - i. Update was given on Peer Cities.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Presentation: FY 21-22 Action Plan Community Needs Assessment, Rebecca Giello and Katie Horstman, Housing and Planning.
 - i. Presentation can be provided by request.
- B. Discussion and possible action on Officer Elections, May 2021-April 2022.
 - i. Waiving Officer Term Limit for the position of Chair was adopted on Commissioner Van Sickle motion, Commissioner Angel second on a 12-0 vote. Commissioner De Maria Nicola and Lugo were absent.
 - ii. Waiving Officer Term Limit for the position of Vice-Chair was adopted on Commissioner Kareithi motion, seconded by Commissioner Van Sickle on a 12-0 vote. Commissioner De Maria Nicola and Lugo were absent.
 - iii. Commissioner De Maria Nicola entered the dais.
 - iv. Commissioners nominated and approved Vice Chair Varteressian to continue to serve as Vice Chair of the Commission on Seniors on Commissioner De Maria Nicola motion, Commissioner Angel second on a 13-0 vote. Commissioner Lugo was absent.
 - v. Commissioners nominated and approved Chair Briesmeister to continue to serve as Chair of the Commission on Seniors on Vice Chair Varteressian motion, Commissioner Van Sickle second on a 13-0 vote. Commissioner Lugo was absent.
- C. Discussion Winter Storm Review Task Force (Resolution NO. 20210325-067) and Emergency Preparedness and Response Working Group
 - i. Commissioner Van Sickle has been assigned to the Winter Storm Review Task Force and will be leading the new Emergency Preparedness and Response Working Group.
 - ii. Emergency Preparedness and Response Working Group is still looking for representation from the faith-based community as well as the Mayors Committee for People Living with Disabilities.
- D. Discussion 2021 Commission on Senior Budget Recommendations
 - i. No discussion currently.

5. STAFF BRIEFINGS

- A. Age-friendly Austin Update and Older Americans Month 2021, Tabitha Taylor, Age-Friendly Program Coordinator
 - i. Support Staff Tabitha Taylor presented on current efforts for older adults, older adults and COVID-19, and Older Americans Month May 2021.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Presentation on Food Access and Older Adults requested for May 2021.

7. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Chair Briesemeister adjourned the meeting at 2:48 pm.