



**COMMISSION ON SENIORS
MEETING MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JULY 13TH, 2022**

The Commission on Seniors convened a Regular Meeting at Austin City Hall, Boards and Commissions, 301 West 2nd Street, Austin, Texas, 78702 and remotely.

Board Members in Attendance: Chair, Janee Briesemeister, Emily De Maria Nicola, Fred Lugo, Jacqueline Angel, Martin Kareithi, Henry Van De Putte, Erica Garcia-Pittman (left dais at 12:15 pm, returned 12:40pm), Patricia Bordie (left dais at 1:01 pm), and Sally Van Sickle.

Board Members not in Attendance: Vice Chair Amy Temperley, Luz Lopez-Guerrero, Martha Bauman, Natalie Cagle, and Peter Varteressian.

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

Presenters: Richard Bondi, Program Development Lead, Rainbow Connections and Edwin Marty, Food Policy Manager, Office of Sustainability.

Chair, Janee Briesemeister called the Board Meeting to order at 12:06 pm. The Commission introduced themselves.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: General

- A. No Public Communication

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the minutes of the May 11th, 2022 Regular Commission on Seniors Meeting and the minutes of the Joint Meeting with the Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities on June 10th, 2022.
 - a. The minutes from the May 11th, 2022, meeting were approved on Commissioner Lugo motion, Commissioner Angel second on an 8-0 vote. Commissioners Temperley, Bauman, Cagle, Garcia-Pittman, Lopez-Guerrero, and Varteressian were absent.
 - b. The approval of minutes from the Joint Meeting with the Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities on June 10th, 2022 will be reviewed at the August Commission on Seniors Meeting.

STAFF BRIEFINGS

2. Staff briefing regarding Age-Friendly Austin Update, Tabitha Taylor, Age-Friendly Program Coordinator.
 - a. Tabitha Taylor gave updates on Age-Friendly Austin, the 2022 USAging Annual Conference, Planning Efforts for Senior Homestead Tax Exemption Outreach, the Older Adult Program and Services Audit, the proposed Intergenerational Day Center, St David's Foundation End of Life Advisory Committee, COVID-19, and Monkeypox.
 - b. Halana Kaleel gave more in-depth detail about the current state of Monkeypox in Austin/Travis County.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

3. Presentation: Introducing Rainbow Connections ATX, Richard Bondi, Program Development Lead, Rainbow Connections
 - a. Richard Bondi introduced Rainbow Connections ATX.
 - b. Presentation covered current work, the need for LGBTQ Adult Services, Program Goals, Next Steps, and their existing community connections.
4. Presentation: City of Austin's First Comprehensive Food Plan, Edwin Marty, Food Policy Manager, Office of Sustainability.
 - a. Edwin Marty discussed the Austin Food Plan development and current status.
 - b. Discussions about who in the Aging Community needs to be involved in the food planning process.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

5. Discussion and possible action on the Commission on Seniors Annual Internal Review and Report.
 - a. The Commission on Seniors Annual Internal Review and report was approved on Commissioner Van Sickle motion, Commissioner Van De Putte second on an 8-0 vote. Commissioners Temperley, Bauman, Bordie, Cagle, Lopez-Guerrero, and Varteressian were absent.

WORKING GROUP/COMMITTEE UPDATES

6. Update from Commission Work Plan
 - a. No discussion currently.
7. Update from the Age Friendly Action Plan Implementation Working Group
 - a. No discussion currently.
8. Update from the Transportation, Housing, and Outdoor Spaces Working Group
 - a. Commissioner Varteressian was absent and unable to give update on working group.
9. Update from the Social Participation, Respect and Social Inclusion, Civic Participation and Employment Working Group.
 - a. Last meeting canceled update will be given in July.
10. Update from the Community Support and Health Services Working Group
 - a. Last meeting canceled update will be given in July.
11. Update from the Joint Inclusion Committee
 - a. No discussion currently.
12. Update from the Ordinance and Bylaws Working Group
 - a. No discussion currently.

WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

13. Discussion and Possible Action on recommendation to change name of Commission on Seniors, ordinance, and bylaws update by the Ordinance and Bylaws Working Group.
 - a. Recommendation to change name of Commission on Seniors, ordinance, and bylaws update by the Ordinance and Bylaws Working Group was approved with amendments on

Commissioner Lugo motion, Commissioner Angel second on an 8-0 vote. Commissioners Temperley, Bauman, Bordie, Cagle, Lopez-Guerrero, and Varteressian were absent.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Call to action for Food Advisory Committee to support who should be involved in the planning process.

ADJOURNMENT

- A. Chair Briesemeister adjourned the meeting at 1:31 pm.

The minutes were approved at the August 10th, 2022 meeting on Commissioner Varteressian's motion, Commissioner Bordie's second on 9-0-1 vote. Commissioners Van De Putte, Lopez-Guerrero, Kareithi, Cagle, and Van Sickle were absent. Commissioner Bondi was unable to vote due to technical difficulties with remote meeting.