



**Commission on Aging
Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 14th, 2024**

The Commission on Aging convened in a regular meeting at Permitting and Development Center, Room 1401/1402-Training, 6310 Wilhelmina Delco Drive, Austin, Texas, 78752 and remotely.

Vice-Chair Flatau called the Commission on Aging Meeting to order at 12:04pm.

Board Members/Commissioners in Attendance: Chair Richard Bondi, Vice Chair Gretchen Flatau, Teresa Ferguson, Henry Van de Putte, Preston Tyree, Emily De Maria Nicola, Mariana Gozalez, Martin Kareithi (entered the dais at 12:20pm), Suzanne Anderson, Tina Rodriguez, and Jennifer Scott.

Board Members/Commissioners not in Attendance: Austin Adams, Jacqueline Angel, Fred Lugo, and Gloria Lugo.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

- Carlos Soto, Research Analyst with the Community Advancement Network (CAN), represents stakeholders that work together to address community needs. This includes mental health and wellness services, community resource guides, and language access.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the minutes of the June 12th, 2024, Regular Commission on Aging Meeting.
 - The minutes from the meeting of June 12th, 2024, were approved by Commissioner Tyree's motion, Commissioner Van de Putte's second on a 10-0 vote. Commissioners Adams, Angel, Kareithi, Fred Lugo, and Gloria Lugo were absent.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

1. Discussion and possible action to form a working group to draft a recommendation on creating an Implicit Bias Day in Austin (Chair Bondi).
 - a. Chair Bondi discussed the idea of having an Implicit Bias Day.
 - b. Recommendation to form a working group to draft a recommendation on creating an Implicit Bias Day was approved on Commissioner Van De Putte's motion, Chair Bondi's second on a 10-0 vote. Commissioners Adams, Angel, Kareithi, Fred Lugo, and Gloria Lugo were absent.
 - c. Workgroup members will include Chair Bondi, Commissioners Scott, and Tyree.
2. Discussion and possible action on forming a Working Group to collaborate with the Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities to identify common priorities, goals, and opportunities for collaboration (Chair Bondi).

- a. Recommendation to form a working group to collaborate with the Mayor’s Committee for People with Disabilities to identify common priorities, goals, and opportunities for collaboration was approved on Commissioner Anderson’s motion, Chair Bondi’s second on a 10-0 vote. Commissioners Adams, Angel, Kareithi, Fred Lugo, and Gloria Lugo were absent.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

3. Introductions to the new Commission on Aging Commissioners Suzanne Anderson and Jennifer Scott (Chair Bondi and Vice-Chair Flatau).
 - a. Commissioners Anderson, Scott, and Rodriguez introduced themselves.
 - b. Commissioner Anderson is representing District 1 and currently works for AGE of Central Texas.
 - c. Commissioner Scott is the representative for the Area Agency on Aging. She has previously been a commissioner many years ago and is happy to be back.
 - d. Commissioner Rodriguez is representing District 6. She is retired and takes pride in representing her community of older adults. She is interested in aging in place and has lived with Parkinson’s for 11 years.
4. Discussion of the updates to the Age Friendly Austin Action Plan (Chair Bondi and Vice-Chair Flatau).
 - a. Vice-Chair Flatau discussed the plan is still being currently reviewed by APH Leadership.
 - b. Chair Bondi discussed how the bylaws say no staff support, this may need to be updated.
 - c. Vice-Chair Flatau discussed how language may need to be revised, and clarification of ownership of the plan.
5. Discussion on the June/July meeting of the Joint Inclusion Committee (Chair Bondi).
 - a. Chair Bondi discussed the Joint Inclusion Committee and their finalization of the townhalls to collect community feedback for the budget.
6. Discussion on the upcoming actions of the Rainbow Connection Coalition to address volunteerism, socialization, and intergenerational connections of older LGBTQ+ adults (Chair Bondi).
 - a. Item tabled.
7. Discussion on Commission on Aging’s Annual Review and Report submitted July 2024 (Chair Bondi and Vice-Chair Flatau).
 - a. Vice-Chair Flatau asked if there was any comments or questions regarding the annual review submitted in July 2024.
 - b. No comments made.

STAFF BRIEFINGS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

8. Staff Briefing regarding Age-Friendly Austin including update on the Age Friendly Austin Action Plan Update, Nicole Howe, Age Friendly Program Coordinator, Austin Public Health.
 - a. Staff support Nicole Howe provided an update on the plan and current activities of the Age Friendly Program.
9. Staff Briefing regarding Age Friendly Austin Community Engagement, Halana Kaleel, Public Health Community Engagement Specialist, Austin Public Health.
 - a. Staff support Halana Kaleel provided an update on community engagement and the plan and other engagement/communication activities of the Age Friendly Program.
10. Staff Briefing regarding the status of the Older Adults Quality of Life Study, Alejandra Mireles, City of Austin Equity Office.

- a. Alejandra Mireles provided an update on the Quality of Life Study including meetings occurring between commissioners and the study vendor.
- 11. Staff Briefing regarding Public Safety Concerns, Karen Hemby, Neighborhood Liaison, Austin Police Department.
 - a. Karen Hemby is currently out sick and unable to provide staff briefing.

WORKGROUP UPDATES

- 12. Discussion of the Community Organization List prepared by the Commission on Aging Quality of Life Working Group (Working Group Members: Chair Bondi, Vice Chair Flatau, Commissioners Fred Lugo, Tyree, and Van De Putte).
 - a. Workgroup has been working on this.
 - b. Recommendation to ensure Power for Parkison’s is included.
- 13. Discussion on adding additional community members to the Commission on Aging Quality of Life Study Working Group (Working Group Members: Chair Bondi, Vice Chair Flatau, Commissioners Fred Lugo, Tyree, and Van De Putte).
 - a. Commissioner Rodriguez is interested in participating.
- 14. Discussion of status of the Commission on Aging Budget Recommendations for FY24-25 from the Commission on Aging Budget Working Group (Working Group Members: Chair Bondi, Vice-Chair Flatau, Commissioners Gonzalez and Ferguson).
 - a. Budget workgroup is hoping for a document from the City better explaining what commission recommendations were adopted.
 - b. Commissioner Kareithi discussed how the City will be installing increased pedestrian signals that gives pedestrians an audible indication to cross 2-3 seconds before vehicles get a green light to go.
- 15. Discussion on Domain 4-6 Workgroup update on the Aging is Living Conference (Working Group Members: Chair Bondi, Commissioners Ferguson, Gonzalez, and Fred Lugo).
 - a. Flyer has been shared with commissioners.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:28pm without objection.

The minutes were approved at the DATE meeting on BOARD MEMBER’s motion, BOARD MEMBER second on a (vote count) vote.