



**COMMISSION ON SENIOR
MEETING MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH, 2020**

The Commission on Seniors convened a Regular Meeting at Meals on Wheels Central Texas, Board Room 232, 3227 E. 5th St, Austin, Texas, 78602.

Board Members in Attendance: *Chair, Janee Briesemeister, Vice Chair, Peter Varteressian, 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, and Patricia Bordie.*

Board Members not in Attendance: *Sally Van Sickle.*

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

Presenters: *David Crabb, Acting Manager, Community Recreation, Austin Parks and Recreation.*

Chair, Janee Briesemeister called the Board Meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. The Commission introduced themselves.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

- A. Richard Bondi, LGBT Elder Task Force, General Communication
 - i. Bondi discussed the Task Force becoming a SAGE Affiliate.
- B. Sofia Barbato, Foundation Communities, General Communication
 - i. Observing meeting and wanted to introduce herself. Request to present to the Commissioners in May 2020.
- C. Ivanna Neri, Budget Recommendation, III.B.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE COMMISSION ON SENIORS SPECIAL CALLED MEETING JANUARY 7TH, 2020 AND THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING JANUARY 8TH, 2020.

- A. The minutes for the Special Called Meeting of January 7th and the minutes for the Regular Meeting of January 8th were approved on Vice Chair, Varteressian motion, Commissioner Hauser second on a 14-0 vote. Commissioner Van Sickle was absent.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Joint Meeting with Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities will be Friday, February 14th, 2020 at 5pm.

- B. Equity Office is putting a meeting together for February 29th, 2020 for Boards and Commissions to review the budget process. Chair Briesmeister and Support Staff Kaleel will attend.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Presentation, 50+ Services Report, David Crabb, Acting Manager, Community Recreation, Austin Parks and Recreation.
 - i. David Crabb and Ben Rustenhaven presented to the Commissioners on current programming for older adults within PARD.
- B. FY21-22 Budget Process and Review
 - i. Neri during Citizen Communication recommended that \$1 million be reallocated in the existing social services contracts to direct and unrestricted cash transfers to families struggling with poverty to advance their social and economic mobility.
 - ii. Chair Briesmeister attended the Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities Budget Forum. Concerns that came up were transportation, built environment, inadequate sidewalks, and audible walk signals.
 - iii. Commissioner Spain attended the Commission on Women's Budget Forum. She noted they did not have a large community presence. However, there was focus on trafficking issues such as women aging out of foster care and people vulnerable to trafficking.
 - iv. Commissioner Bordie attended the African American Quality of Life Commission, the did not have quorum, so they handed their Budget Forum to the City of Austin Equity Office which convened a small group that discussed mental health.
 - v. Commissioner Grampp attended the LGBTQ Quality of Life Commission Budget Forum. The discussed topics such as senior centers.
 - vi. Commissioner Angel attended the Hispanic Quality of Life Commission Budget Forum.
 - vii. Commissioners discussed the benefit of having unified request between Commissions due to the current budget limitations.
 - viii. Support Staff Kaleel and Taylor gave an update on the results of the Budget Survey and Forum.
- C. Update on Senior Tax Resolution.
 - i. Forum is being held on February 15th on Tax Education for older adults.
- D. Older Americans Month 2020.
 - i. Support Staff Taylor has been working with David Crabb, PARD to plan a better presence for Older Americans Month (OAM).
 - ii. Support Staff Taylor and Commissioner Bordie will go on KZI to promote OAM.
 - iii. Proclamation will be made at City Hall, Commissioners Court, and Williamson County.

- iv. Commissioner Garcia-Pittman suggested incorporating in recognizing community members and have this announced during the May 2020 Commission Meeting.

V. 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
 - No discussion currently.
 - iii. Social Participation, Respect and Social Inclusion, Civic Participation and Employment Working Group
 - No discussion currently.
 - iv. Community Support and Health Services Working Group
 - No discussion currently.
- C. Update on Joint Inclusion Committee – Standing Item (Janee Briesmeister)
 - i. Update provided on the Land Development Code Recommendation.
 - Chair Briesmeister noted she was provided feedback that the recommendation made on parking for the Land Development Code was programmatic and not land development code.
- D. City of Austin Budget – Standing Item (Janee Briesmeister)
 - i. See item III.B.
- E. Update on the Equity Action Team – Standing Item (Emily De Maria Nicola)
 - i. No discussion currently.

VI. STAFF BRIEFINGS

- A. Update on FY20 Budget Community Engagement Forum and Survey.

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Suggested agenda items for FY20.
 - i. No discussion currently
- B. Presentation Request from Senior Access.
 - i. No discussion currently
- C. Foundation Communities will present to the Commission on Seniors in May 2020.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Chair, Janee Briesmeister adjourned the meeting at 2:07 p.m. without objection.