



SENIOR AFFAIRS COMMISSION

Monday, December 18, 2017 – 12:00 p.m.

Dallas City Hall – LIFN Auditorium

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: Monday, December 18, 2017 **Convened:** 12:01 p.m. **Adjourned:** 1:11 p.m.

Committee Members Present:

Sharyn Fein, Chair
Carmen Arana (Dist. 1)
Lydia Simpson (Dist. 2)
John Johnson (Dist. 3)
Myrtis Evans (Dist. 4)
Carl Raines (Dist. 5)
Jearldine McDaniel (Dist. 6)
Deloris King (Dist. 7)
VACANT (Dist. 8)
Mary Ann Sparks (Dist. 9)
Jeri Baker (Dist. 10)
Irwin "Bill" Gart (Dist. 11)
Marlene Cohen (Dist. 12)
Syl Benenson (Dist. 13)
Sarah Wick (Dist. 14)

Guests Present:

Lynda Ender
Tammara Scroggins
Zachary Thompson

City of Dallas Staff Present:

Cobbie Ransom, Administrator
Valencia Hooper-Alexander, Manager
Heather Silver, SAC CAO Liaison
Ana Camacho, Caseworker
Lynn Jenkinson, Caseworker

AGENDA:

1. **Call to Order**

Sharyn Fein, Chair, called the Senior Affairs Commission (SAC) meeting to order at 12:01 p.m. and reviewed the rules of conduct for the SAC meetings:

- Keep your thoughts and reports concise
- Allow all members to complete their thoughts before commenting
- No cross conversations or talking among us while others are speaking
- Be respectful and polite at all times
- Address each other as Commissioner and their last name

2. **Approval of Annual Retreat Minutes** – John Johnson made a motion to amend the November 20, 2017 SAC Annual Retreat meeting minutes to include the information omitted at the retreat regarding details on the mission, vision and objectives for the SAC. Syl Benenson seconded the motion. The Commissioners unanimously voted to approve the November 2017 minutes with the amendments.
3. **Zachary S. Thompson, Director, Dallas County Health and Human Services.** Mr. Thompson presented an overview of the Dallas County Health and Human Services program on health and activities provided for seniors. The Older Adult Services Program funded by Dallas Area Agency on Aging includes ten senior centers and many independent sites that provide activities and a support system for seniors. The Senior Centers ensure that seniors stay connected to the community. The congregate meal is a key component.

Tammara Scroggins, Assistant Director for Public Health, talked about disease prevention and intervention as it relates to communicable disease. The focus of the program is on prevention, education, outreach, disaster preparedness, and a holistic approach to medical care.

4. **Senior Affairs Commission Committee Reports**

Commissioner Johnson welcomed Commissioner Carl Raines as the new Chair of the Elderly Safety Awareness and Health Committee. Commissioner Raines expressed his concerns about the safety of nursing home residents regarding abuse and neglect. He proposed the question: How can we better educate people to prevent rape and sexual assault in nursing homes?

Commissioner Benenson reviewed the year-end report on SAC expenditures. The balance of funds has been expended and will be reflected in the next quarterly report. She invited all Commissioners to attend the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) hearing to request funding for the three CDBG positions approved in previous years.

Commissioner Simpson announced that Age Well Live Well Dallas will meet on December 20, 2017 at the Senior Source at 9:30 a.m. The coalition is in the process of organizing a workshop at the University of North Texas Dallas. Dallas Metrocare came to the last meeting wanting to participate in the workshop event.

Commissioner Sparks announced that the first Social and Isolation Committee meeting will be held in January 2018. This meeting will be a working session to identify committee goals and plan for the future.

Commissioner Gart, Chair of the Housing Committee, thanked Commissioners Evans and King for joining the Housing Committee. He does not see how the committees can do what they need to do without a Communications Committee. Commissioner Fein will address his concern at a Chair meeting.

5. **SAC Goals for 2018** – Commissioner Fein is planning to meet with all the Committee Chairs to define the vision, mission and goals of each committee before meeting with four SAC members to create a mission, vision and goals for the SAC 2017-2018.
6. **Office of Senior Affairs Announcement**
 - Valencia Hooper Alexander reported on the Senior Listening Sessions. The purpose of the Listening Sessions is to introduce the Commissioners to their districts, to inform the community about the City of Dallas Senior Services programs, to obtain information and ideas from the community on the eight AARP domains, and to address any issues seniors may have about their districts.

Cobbie Ransom stated that a dress rehearsal for the Listening Sessions is necessary. The Senior Services staff member assigned to each Listening Session will contact the Commissioner in the corresponding district to schedule a date for the dress rehearsal. Each Commissioner will receive a notebook or a packet of information on the Listening Session. Commissioner Benenson suggested sharing information in the presentation or providing handouts or brochures on the Senior Source and the Dallas Area Agency on Aging at the Listening Sessions.

- Mr. Ransom announced the 2017-2018 SAC committee assignments and meeting times:

Elderly Safety Awareness and Health Committee will meet on the third Monday from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.
Committee Chair: Carl Raines
Committee Members: Jeri Baker, Syl Benenson, Marlene Cohen, Myrtis Evans, Bill Gart, John Johnson, Mary Sparks, Lydia Simpson

Budget Committee will meet on the third Monday from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.
Committee Chair: Syl Benenson
Committee Members: Marlene Cohen, Bill Gart, Jearldine McDaniel, Lydia Simpson, Carmen Arana

Social and Isolation Committee will meet on the third Monday from 4 to 5:30 p.m.
Committee Chair: Mary Ann Sparks
Committee Members: Jeri Baker, Deloris King, Sarah Wick

Housing Committee will meet on the third Tuesday from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.
Committee Chair: Bill Gart
Committee Members: Myrtis Evans, Deloris King, Carmen Arana

Transportation Committee will meet on the third Tuesday from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.
Committee Chair: To be determined
Co-Chairs: Carl Raines and Jearldine McDaniel
Committee member: Sarah Wick.

7. **No Citizens' Comments**

At future meetings, Commissioner Fein will set a timer to limit the comments to three minutes per citizen.

8. **Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:11 p.m. The next SAC meeting will be held on January 22, 2018 at 12:00 p.m. in the Auditorium at Dallas City Hall.

APPROVED BY:

Sharyn Fein, Chair
Senior Affairs Commission (SAC)