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SENIOR AFFAIRS COMMISSION

Monday, November 16, 2015 9:00 a.m.
Dallas City Hall – 1500 Marilla, Rm. L1EN

CITY SECRETARY
DALLAS, TEXAS

MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Trini Garza, Chair
Carmen Arana, (Dist. 1)
Lydia Simpson (Dist. 2)
John Johnson, Co-Chair (Dist. 3)
Johnny Rodriguez (Dist. 5)
Felix Lozada (Dist. 6)
Cannon Flowers (Dist. 7)
Mary Sparks (Dist. 9)
Armand Christopher (Dist. 10)
Irwin "Bill" Gart, (Dist. 11)
Marlene Cohen (Dist. 12)
Syl Benenson (Dist. 13)
Sara Wick (Dist. 14)

GUESTS

Chiyoko Douglas

VACANCIES

District 4
District 8

COD STAFF

Valencia Hooper-Alexander, Manager
Myckycle Hart
Lynn Jenkinson
Ana Camacho
Karen Rayzer, Assistant Director
Bernadette Mitchell, Director Housing

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. John Johnson, Co- Chair, called the Senior Affairs Commission (SAC) meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the October 16, 2015 meeting were reviewed. Ms. Simpson stated she did not have attachments. She reported on an event at Reverchon Park for senior citizens that was successfully launched. Ms. Cohen noted Commissioner Rodriguez was not replaced for District 5. Commissioner Sparks stated her attachment was not included in the meeting notes. Mrs. Alexander stated she would send to Commissioners with corrected meeting notes. Commissioner Benenson moved that the minutes be accepted with the corrections mentioned. It was seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez. The meeting notes were approved unanimously by the Commissioners present.

Syl Benenson 12-18-15 2:00 PM



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SAC MEETINGS DURING HOLIDAYS:

Commissioner Cohen made a motion to move the December meeting from the 21st to the 14th due to the Christmas holiday. In discussion it was noted that January and February meetings would also fall on holidays. So, the motion was amended to include changing the three meetings to the following:

December 14th (from the 21st) January 11th (from the 18th) February 8th (from the 15th)

Commissioner Flowers seconded the motion and it was passed by all members present.

DISTRICT REPORTS:

District 2 – Ms. Simpson met with the company interested in purchasing the land where the Old North Temple Baptist Church is located regarding zoning changes with Councilman Medrano. Ms. Simpson did research on the feasibility of land use which changed the direction of the zoning.

District 3 – Mr. Johnson reported on an event he attended to celebrate former Council member Voncel Jones-Hill's service at Texas Horse Park, 811 Pemberton Hills Rd., Dallas.

District 5 –Mr. Rodriguez has been visiting area recreational centers. He stated communications in Spanish is a problem in his area. He wants staff to contact Turner Recreation center for programming.

District 6-Mr. Lozada reported problems with the seniors in his area understanding how the Minor Home Repair program works. They feel their homes will be taken away if they utilize the program.

District 7 – Mr. Flowers attended 2 outreach events and a neighborhood meeting with Districts 7 & 9.

District 9- Ms. Sparks reported on the Ferguson Road Initiative and the Kids Health & Safety Fair at Harry Stone Recreation Center. She stated there were almost as many seniors there as younger people. She has also joined Next Door to be of greater service to her neighborhood.

District 10- Mr. Christopher reported on the meeting he attended at Northeast DPD. He also mentioned that he has concerns about how COD Code Enforcement may be harassing seniors in his area. He mentioned being active with the Hoarding Task Force of Greater Dallas and APS Community Board.

District 11-Mr. Gart reported the Jewish Community Center's Senior Expo held Tuesday, November 3rd was a great success. He also participated in providing 60 bags of food and 30 bags of clothing to the Vickery Meadow center.



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District 12- Ms. Cohen reported on the Senior Hunger Task Force has had lots of activity and was represented at the JCC event. She attended the Women's Council meeting and heard Director Zachary Thompson speak. She is almost finished with the reconciliation of funds from Friends of Senior Affairs and MayFair expenses.

District 13- Ms. Benenson reported she has been with seniors at the Edgemere Rehabilitative Center. She will be working with recreation centers and libraries in her area to improve senior services. She voiced the City has a responsibility for Health & Human Service issues.

District 14- Ms. Wick reported that she has been working hard preparing for the Retreat with Commissioners Gart, Arana and Flowers; they have invested more than 40 hours in this project. She requested information regarding Neighborhood Plus to take to her community for increased accountability.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – Tabled for Retreat

SENIOR SERVICES REPORT

Mrs. Alexander presented PowerPoint on Senior Services Program's October/November activities and introduced new staff. Margaret "Lynn" Jenkinson, M. Ed. and Ana Camacho, MA both started this month as Caseworker II's.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn at 10:05 p.m. to continue with SAC Retreat and a welcome from Housing Director Bernadette Mitchell.