

**SENIOR AFFAIRS COMMISSION (SAC) MONTHLY MEETING**

**REMOTE WEBEX MEETING**

**DIAL IN: 1-408-418-9388 UNITED STATES TOLL**

**MEETING NUMBER (ACCESS CODE): 187 198 6317**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2021**

**12:00 PM – 1:30 PM**

**Minutes**

**Meeting Date:** Monday, February 22, 2021 **Convened:** 12:08 p.m. **Adjourned**: 1:02 p.m.

**Committee Members Present**: **Committee Members Absent**: **City of Dallas Staff Present:**

Jan Hart Black, Chair Portia M. Cantrell (Dist. 2) Ana Camacho, Manager

Carmen Arana (Dist. 1) Ja’net Huling (Dist. 5) Candy Coblyn, Manager

Verna Mitchell (Dist. 3) Bill Gart (Dist.11) Jessica Galleshaw, Director VACANT (Dist. 4) J. Peter Kline (Dist. 13) Myckycle Hart, Caseworker

Marilyn Daniels (Dist. 6) Lynn Jenkinson, Caseworker Cannon Flowers (Dist. 7) Calvin Johnson, Lieutenant of Police

Debbie Austin (Dist. 8) Aqwana Long, Program Manager

Beverly White (Dist. 9) Barbara Martinez, City Attorney

Jeri Baker (Dist. 10) Theresa Pham, City Attorney

Zelene Lovitt (Dist. 12) James Ramirez, Caseworker

Sarah Wick (Dist. 14) Lupe Rios, Administrator

Moody Taylor, Coordinator

**Call to Order**

Jan Hart Black, Chair, called the Senior Affairs Commission (SAC) monthly meeting to order at 12:08 p.m. and conducted

roll call to establish a quorum.

**No Public Comments**

**Approval of January 25, 2021 Minutes**

Sarah Wick made a motion to approve the January 2021 minutes. Beverly White seconded the motion. The Commissioners

voted in favor of the motion.

**Upcoming Council Elections / Commissioner Political Activity Restrictions**

Theresa Pham, City Attorney’s Office, presented the dos and don’ts regarding city officials and political activities during the upcoming council elections. The Dallas Code of Ethics defines a “city official” to include members of city boards and commissions. Ms. Pham provided a list of provisions to the Commission and explained each of them.

**COD Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization Department**

Aqwana Long, Program Manager, City of Dallas Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization Department, presented a brief

overview of the Housing Preservation, Title & Property Assistance Program (TAPA) for the Targeted Rehab Programs.

* + - The City of Dallas partnered with a law firm to assist citizens with clearing the title on their property.
    - The Tenth Street Historic District Targeted Rehab Program provides up to $20,000 of assistance for exterior home repairs. The loan is forgiven after five years of deed restrictions and home occupancy.
    - The West Dallas Targeted Rehab Program provides assistance on exterior home repairs up to $10,000. The loan is also forgivable after five years. Currently, the housing department has received 70 to 75 applicants with a goal of 200.

**Dallas Police Department**

Calvin Johnson, Lieutenant of Police Assault/Sex Assault Unit, presented a diagram of elder offenses, senior population

crime statistics of elderly victims of crime over 65 years of age. The Crime Analysis Unit calculated percentages of reduction

or increase in elder offenses. According to the statistics, two categories increased from 2019 to 2020: counterfeiting/forgery increased by two percent and individual robbery increased by one percent. Everything else stayed the same or decreased. It was noted that people over 65 were not in greater risk of crime victimization that their proportion of the Dallas population.

**Office of Community Care/Senior Services**

Jessica Galleshaw, Director, Office of Community Care, provided an update on the Senior Services Program and contract

partners.

* Senior Services staff is currently working on the Spring edition of the Senior Affairs Dallas Newsletter.
* Senior Services partnered with DART, Dallas Parks and Recreation, and Dallas Police Department to plan and organize the Older Americans Month event which is tentatively scheduled for May 31, 2021 at three or more locations.
* Staff received 79 unduplicated calls including hundreds of communications. Highest number of calls received were for home repairs and financial assistance.
* The number of DART Rider Assistance Program (RAP) users and trips is beginning to increase.
* The critical dental program is operating at half or less of their capacity.

One area that the city has been focused on since the winter storm is the distribution of water. City staff have made quite a

number of deliveries to apartment complexes. The housing department is working with nonprofits on an emergency

home repair program for disaster assistance in the aftermath of the winter storm.

**Senior Affairs Commissioners District Updates**

Chair Black read Ja’net Huling’s written report: District 5 held COVID Vaccine Day for seniors and registered about 700

people. Food is being distributed in District 5 today.

Carmen Arana reported that District 1 also had a vaccine registration activity. Some areas impacted by the winter storm did

not have water because the pipes burst. The City of Dallas staff provided 87 bottles of water on Saturday, February 20th.

Commissioner Arana has been working with Dallas County and other contacts to acquire more water.

Commissioner White participated in vaccine registration in District 9. Distribution of water and food is ongoing.

Verna Mitchell has been working with a group of people in District 5, calling a list of seniors wanting to register for vaccines

and assisting them with registering. District 5 has two drive-through vaccination locations. Since the winter storm, District 5

has also been busy assisting people in need of water and food by providing water, hot meals, and groceries.

Marilyn Daniels reported numerous outages in District 6 due to the winter storm. District 6 has truckloads of free water and

food to distribute to people in need. Volunteers in her district have been delivering food and water to those without electricity

who cannot cook. Warming centers were open in West Dallas. Volunteers in District 6 have been knocking on doors and

going to senior living centers to check on seniors. Council Member Omar Narvaez also let seniors sit on a bus to warm up.

Debbie Austin reported that all of the Dallas Park and Recreation Centers are distributing up to 15 gallons of water. The

recreation centers also serve as warming sites. Friendship Baptist Church is giving out hot meals every day this week.

District 8 distributed food today. Hunger Busters will be distributing food at Glendale Shopping Center on February 24th.

**Upcoming Events**

* March 22, 2021: Senior Affairs Committee Meeting

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Austin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:02 p.m. Cannon Flowers seconded the motion.

APPROVED BY:



\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Jan Hart Black, Chair

Senior Affairs Commission (SAC)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
|  |  |