



**SENIOR AFFAIRS COMMISSION (SAC) MONTHLY MEETING
HYBRID MEETING
WEBEX DIAL IN: 1-469-210-7159 UNITED STATES TOLL (DALLAS)
WEBEX MEETING NUMBER (ACCESS CODE): 2493 671 5535
WEBEX MEETING LINK:
<https://dallascityhall.webex.com/dallascityhall/j.php?MTID=me0ddeb858c515fecfddcf8de78c87925>
LOCATION: DALLAS CITY HALL 6ES (COUNCIL BRIEFING ROOM)
MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2021
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM**

Minutes

Meeting Date: Monday, October 25, 2021

Convened: 11:58 a.m.

Adjourned: 12:47 pm

Committee Members Present:

Carmen Arana (Dist. 1)
Portia M. Cantrell (Dist. 2)
Verna Mitchell (Dist. 3)
VACANT (Dist. 5)
Marilyn Daniels (Dist. 6)
VACANT (Dist. 7)
Beverly White (Dist. 9)
Jeri Baker (Dist. 10)
Bill Gart (Dist. 11)
Zelene Lovitt (Dist. 12)
J. Peter Kline (Dist. 13)
Karen Roberts (Dist. 14)

Committee Members Absent:

Ola Allen (Dist. 4)
Debbie Austin (Dist. 8)

City of Dallas Staff Present:

LaRhonda Bacon, Specialist
Ana Camacho, Supervisor
Thor Erickson, Manager
Jessica Galleshaw, Director
Myckycle Hart, Caseworker
Lynn Jenkinson, Caseworker
Karen Levingston, Assistant
James Ramirez, Caseworker
Lupe Rios, Administrator

Call to Order

Peter Kline, Chair, Senior Affairs Commission (SAC), called the monthly meeting to order at 11:58 a.m. and conducted roll call to establish a quorum.

No Public Comments

Approval of September 27, 2021 Minutes

Beverly White made a motion to approve the September 2021 minutes with one correction. Jeri Baker seconded the motion. The Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Commissioner Kline was appointed by Mayor Eric Johnson to serve as Chair of the SAC for the next two years. He would like to begin by developing a baseline of data on the senior population in the City of Dallas. At the same time, the SAC will continue monitoring senior activities of the Senior Services staff. Chair Kline asked the Commissioners to identify the top five needs of seniors in their respective districts. SAC subcommittees will remain the same until next year. Commissioner Kline will share the new calendar with the SAC at the SAC meeting in November.

City of Dallas Program Updates

Thor Erickson, Area Redevelopment Manager, Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization Department, provided an update on the City of Dallas Healthy Homes Lead Reduction Program (HHLR): background, 29 points to a healthy home, and applicant requirements. The Housing Department received approximately \$3 million to administer the program.

In the United States, about 52% of houses built before 1978 still contain lead-based paint. The lead abatement program is focused on removing lead contaminants from the home for the health and well-being of children and expectant mothers. Funding is also available for multi-family units. Twenty-thousand door hangers were distributed to neighborhoods in South Dallas. A discussion followed on ways to promote the program.

Office of Community Care/Senior Services Program

Myckycle Hart, Caseworker II, Senior Services Program, highlighted the Dallas Housing Resource Workshop Virtual Event held on October 22, 2021. Senior Services partnered with AARP to coordinate the event. Thirty-nine people attended.

Ana Y. Camacho, Supervisor, and Myckycle Hart, Caseworker II, Senior Services provided an update on the Senior Services Program, Contract Partners, and a written report with year-to-date comparative data.

As of September 2021, Senior Services received 1280 unduplicated calls for information and referrals, 34 outreach events, and reached out to 1658 seniors. The highest number of calls received were for home repairs, financial assistance, and housing.

- DART Rides Rider Assistance Program: 17 new clients; 188 registered users; 254 trips as of September 2021
- Achieve's Senior Services Employment Program: 17 seniors served; 17 seniors received job placement assistance
- Texas A&M Clinical Dental Program: 1039 unduplicated seniors served in September 2021; 1302 patient visits
- The Senior Source Ombudsman Program: 278 assisted living and nursing home visits; 2810 residents visited; 83% of complaints resolved by Ombudsman within 90 days

Senior Affairs Subcommittee Updates

Verna Mitchell, Chair of the Safety, Health, Community Support Subcommittee stated that her committee met in September with Renae Perry, Chief Operating Officer of the Senior Source, who spoke about senior programs and services offered by the Senior Source during the COVID pandemic. The Ombudsman have begun making regular unannounced visits to the nursing homes. The City of Dallas provides funding for the Senior Source for two staff, a manager, and several other positions.

Senior Affairs Commissioners District Updates

Commissioner Baker, District 10, announced the opening of the Park at Forest-Audelia, created by the Better Block Foundation, a nonprofit which educates, equips, and empowers communities and their leaders to reshape and reactivate environments. The Park at Forest-Audelia was launched as a Project Safe Neighborhoods effort in partnership with the Dallas Park and Recreation Department and the Office of Council Member Adam McGough. A large group of older adults were present at the opening ceremony.

Commissioner Mitchell reported that she attended the monthly breakfast in District 3 on Saturday, October 23, 2021. The new Executive Director of Neighborhood Planning was present at the meeting as well as a person who will be serving on the new city committee for neighborhood ambassadors.

Zelene Lovitt, District 12, reported that Renner Frankford Library reopened after suffering damage due to the winter storm. There was a tree planting get-together at Salado Park. Commissioner Lovitt also stated that they are trying to address the issue of homeless camps in her district as well as panhandling, some significant challenges.

Upcoming Events

- ◆ November 15, 2021: Senior Affairs Committee Meeting at location to be determined

Adjournment

Commissioner White made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:47 p.m. Carmen Arana seconded the motion.

APPROVED BY:


J Peter Kline (Nov 17, 2021 16:46 CST)

J. Peter Kline, Chair
Senior Affairs Commission (SAC)