



Funded through the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services
Alamo Area Council of Governments

**Minutes of the
Alamo Senior Advisory Committee of the
Alamo Area Council of Governments**

March 11, 2005 – 1:00 p.m.

AACOG Boardroom
8700 Tesoro Dr. Suite 700
San Antonio, Texas 78217

Members

Linda Lee Davis, excused
Ginny Funk, present
Carolyn Goodall, present
John Halloran, present
Genevieve Manley, present
Tim Wauson, absent
Judge Diana Bautista, excused
Raymond White, present
Marie Dawson, excused
Bonnie Flagg, present
Irma Gonzalez, present
Ysabela Pena, present
Carol Smith, present

Cindy Wilson, present
Darlene Evans, excused
Kathryn Schmoekel, present
Cheryl Bush, present
Albert Tapia, present
Charles Donellan, present
Walter Harris, excused
Flora Gurt, absent
Chris Mitchell, absent
Regina Applewhite, present
Becky Byerly, present
Robert Lopez, present

Joyce Cruz-ALT, present
Patricia Godkin, present
Beverly Lutz, excused
Carolyn Stauss, present
Denise Usener, excused
Pamela Vann, excused
Tina Woods, excused
Glen Peterson, present
Barbara Effenberger, present
JoAnn McFarland, absent
Louis Vannatter, absent

Guest/Visitors

Gloria Arriaga
Sherilynn Vineyard

Staff

Israel Zúñiga
Julie Sakelakos
Evangeline Avena
Pete Cantu

Nanci Struble
Suzanne Ruff
Candy Walsh
Maria Wilson

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairperson, Carolyn Stauss, called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

II. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Carolyn Stauss welcomed members and guests. Israel Zúñiga introduced Sherilynn Vineyard who is the new director of the Pleasanton Senior Center.

III. ROLL CALL

Charles Donellan took roll call. Twenty-two (21) members and one (1) alternate were present.

IV. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

None

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Joyce Cruz moved to approve the minutes of February 11 with corrections as follows: Members-Pat Goodall was "excused" not "present" for February 11, 2005 meeting and Kathryn Schmoekel was "excused" not "absent" for January 14, 2005 meeting. Glen Peterson seconded the motion. Motion carried with two (2) abstentions.

VI. LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

A. HOUSE BILL NO. 470 & SENATE BILL NO. 194

Both bills were included in the agenda packet. Both are in their respective health and human services committee. At present we do not know when they will come out of committee. Discussion followed regarding these bills.

B. TEXAS WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING & TEXAS CONFERENCE ON AGING

San Antonio has been honored as being a lead presentation site for the July e-conference for the Texas White House Conference on Aging. Bexar Agency on Aging is coordinating this effort. Members were encouraged to go on line and give feedback. Information was handed out to committee.

Note that the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature is a sponsor of the Texas White House Conference on Aging.

VII. REPORTS

A. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Israel Zúñiga stated that he would be visiting the Rainbow Senior Center in Boerne and the Pleasanton Senior Center in Pleasanton this month. He will start monitoring all senior centers in April.

He also reminded everyone that the Alamo Aging staff is available to speak on the list of topics that was given out at the last committee meeting. Please contact our office. Starting with this meeting, staff will be providing a brief synopsis of the activities in their respective area.

B. BYLAWS COMMITTEE REPORT

The bylaws committee will meet on Friday, April 1 to finalize their recommendations.

C. RURAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION LIAISON

None.

D. TEXAS SILVER-HAIRED LEGISLATORS (TSHL)

Texas White House Conference on Aging is connected with the National White House Conference on Aging and will be held in October 2005. The Texas White House on Aging is going to be a teleconference with a sharing of information. Participants will be able to respond. Information sheets and the web site were given to the committee.

The TSHL will meet for their fall meeting in August 2005.

E. ALAMO AREA AGENCY ON AGING PROGRAM REPORTS

CAREGIVER/CARE COORDINATION

Maria Wilson, Geriatric Care Specialist, introduced her staff; Evangeline Avena-Care Coordination Assistant who handles income support and Pete Cantu-Aging Care Specialist. Maria reported that Alamo Aging has finally acquired a partner for building ramps. Also, she reminded everyone of the Alzheimer's Kerrville Symposium on Tuesday, March 15.

OMBUDSMAN

Nanci Struble, Ombudsman/Elder Rights Specialist, reported that there has been an increase of more than double the complaints for Nursing Homes in the past few years. She states that this could be the result of more awareness of situations and training the volunteers to accurately report their actions on their visitations. The complaints come from observations of our staff, volunteer

ombudsman, staff at the nursing home, residents, family members and the toll-free complaint hotline. The natures of the complaints range from serious abuse to complaints about the food. No questions were asked.

MEDICARE/MEDICAID

Suzanne Ruff, Ombudsman/Elder Rights Specialist, discussed issues with the new Medicare Part D that will start in January 2006 and handed out information to the committee. Discussion followed.

F. PROVIDERS MEETING

Israel told the providers that our internal audit would start Monday, March 28. There was also discussion on fundraisers that the different senior centers hold.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. ALTERNATE LOCATION FOR APRIL ASAC MEETING

Kathryn Schmoekel of the Silver Center in Seguin has offered their facility for the April 8th ASAC meeting. Maps and directions will be included in the mail out.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. CONSIDER AND APPROVE NSIP DISTRIBUTION

Irma Gonzales moved to approve the NSIP distribution. Carolyn Goodall seconded the motion. Motion carried.

B. CONSIDER AND APPROVE TRANSFER OF FUNDS FOR ART TRANSPORTATION FROM BANDERA TO KENDALL FOR \$3,000 AND FROM WILSON TO KARNES FOR \$3,000.

Pat Godkin from Bandera expressed concern over the transfer of funds out of Bandera County. Following some discussion, Cindy Wilson moved to table this item until Beverly Lutz, the ART liaison, is available to discuss. Irma Gonzalez seconded the motion. Motion carried.

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS / INFORMATION ITEMS

Tiffany Pickens, ACOG Community Relations Coordinator, encouraged everyone to take an application for the 2005 Regional Awards. Any person, corporation, community project, or governmental regional project that has contributed to the significant positive advancement of the region and/or communities in the twelve counties of the Alamo Area is eligible for nomination. Nomination forms are to be returned by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, May 2, 2005.

Kathryn Schmoekel reported that the Silver Center in Seguin has secured \$55,000 in funding. There will now be a Tuesday and Thursday Veteran's clinic. Along with having the Alzheimer's Resource Center, they are also sponsoring the American Cancer Society Resource Library.

Ginny Funk also discussed the upcoming Kerrville Symposium that they are sponsoring. At this time they estimate approximately 120 people attending.

XI. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting will be April 8, 2005 at the Silver Center in Seguin. Directions will be mailed with April 8th Agenda.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Carolyn Stauss adjourned the meeting at 2:18 p.m.

Carolyn Stauss, Chairperson

Date