

**Minutes**  
**Bexar Senior Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**Friday, March 12, 2010 – 10:00 a.m.**  
**Al J. Notzon III Board Room**  
**8700 Tesoro Drive, Suite 100**  
**San Antonio, TX 78217-6228**

**Members Present**

Chris Alderete  
Sharon Baughman  
Sue Bell  
Julia Castellano-Hoyt  
Elsa Davis  
Brenda Dever-Armstrong  
Yolanda Dickson  
Larry Dratch  
Patti Gunter  
Bob Hultgren  
Sue Ellen Lewis  
Ruth Lofgren  
Dean Murphy  
Sterling Neuman  
Nancy Rheams  
Steve Saldana  
Marolyn Stubblefield  
J. Elaine Talarski, Secretary  
Valerie Taylor  
George A. Walton, Chair

**Alternates Present**

Charlotte Hall  
Alice Rose Kennedy

**Members Absent**

Ed Dylla (exc.)  
Milo Hoenscheid  
Laurin Lee Jimenez, (exc.)  
Ruth Jones-McClendon  
Ida Kenny, Emeritus  
Ernie Lopez  
Donald Moye (exc.)  
Victoria Palm  
Dorothy Jo Weiss (exc.)

**Staff Members Present**

Nellie Garay  
Nick Monreal  
Gale Murden  
Nancy Posos  
Martha Ramirez  
Martha Spinks  
Paula Wanken

**Guests Present**

Megan Dodge; City of San Antonio  
Edward Gonzales; City of San Antonio  
Bryan Layton; City of San Antonio  
Homer Lear; TSHL  
Hamid Mangalji, Cardinal Senior Care  
Bill McBroom; Jewish Family Services  
Martin Meachum, Bexar Cty Sheriff's Ofc  
Amadeo Ortiz; Bexar Cty Sheriff's Ofc

1. Meeting Called to Order by George Walton – Chair.
2. Roll Call by Elaine Talarski – Secretary. A quorum was established.
3. Citizens to be heard:

A. Homer Lear, Texas Silver Haired Legislature (TSHL), reported on the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the National Silver Haired Congress (NSHC) from February 4-9. The following five resolutions will be presented to the US Congress and the President as grassroots input for legislation and/or policy action:

- 1) Support Silver Alert Notification Network for Missing Elderly Citizens
- 2) Pass the Elder Justice Act
- 3) National Criminal Background Checks of Direct Access Employees
- 4) Increase Funding for Older Americans Act
- 5) Mandate Geriatric Education for Health Career Students in Tax Supported Medical Schools

Mr. Lear also reported on the creation of a Texas Legislative Committee on Aging (HB 610, signed by Governor Perry on July 10, 2009). This was the result of years of work by the TSHL. This committee will anticipate, study and plan on issues regarding health care, housing, nutrition, transportation, and employment for Texas seniors. This committee will be a committee of six member; four members will be appointed from the legislature (two from the Senate and two from the House), and two from the public-at-large.

4. The Minutes of February 12, 2010 were reviewed. George Walton noted the correction of Elaine Talarski as Secretary versus Ruth Garcia. With no further discussion, Chris Alderete made a motion for approval; Steve Saldana seconded; the motion carried with the minutes being approved as corrected.
5. Presentations.
  - A. George Walton introduced Bexar County Sheriff Amadeo Ortiz. Sheriff Ortiz reported on how fraud and abuse impact the senior population.
  - B. Bryan Layton, Organizational Performance Analyst for the City of San Antonio, presented information about the City of San Antonio's plans for expanding the number of multi-purpose senior centers. The City is looking for feedback from the Joint Commission on Elderly Affairs and is asking the members of BSAC to give input to the Joint Commission. Sterling Neuman is on the Joint Commission and will gladly relay input if members want to contact him directly.
6. Chairperson's Report – George Walton. No report.
7. Director's Report – Martha Spinks.
  - All BSAC members/alternates are encouraged to be an informed advocate for senior centers. Anyone wanting to give input to the Joint Commission on Elderly Affairs should look at all aspects of seniors' needs, as there are more needs than nutrition.
  - At the recent AoA (Administration on Aging) National Grantee Conference for ADRCs, the Alamo Service Connection was awarded the "Changing Lives" award. Martha Ramirez was in attendance and accepted for ASC.

- Tabitha Borko, an intern with Bexar Aging who is deaf, is planning an open house in April in two senior center locations, for the deaf and hard of hearing seniors in the community.
- The Area Plan for Bexar AAA will be due this summer. Karin Kokinda, an intern from UTSA, has been working on putting together a survey. Volunteers will be needed to help distribute these surveys. BSAC members are encouraged to volunteer with this project. More information will be forthcoming.
- Nellie Garay, Bexar AAA Caregiver Support Specialist, was awarded a scholarship to attend the 2010 ASA Caregiving Coalition Conference in Chicago. She received the scholarship based on her work with the Bexar County Caregiver Coalition.

8. Subcommittee Reports:

A. Access and Assistance – Martha Ramirez reported.

- Discussions are underway for the “Cool Neighbor” campaign for 2010.
- The Texas Conference on Aging will be March 21-24, 2010, featuring a presentation on the Alamo Caregiver Tele-Connection: Tele-learning for Caregivers.
- Bexar AAA will be hosting a Benefits Counseling Certification Training April 13-15, 2010.
- Dorothy Jo Weiss has been in contact with Sarah Lozano at APS and will report back regarding elder justice issues.

B. Allocations and Monitoring – Gale Murden reported.

- Request was presented for approval to release a Request for Proposals for congregate meals, home delivered meals, transportation, and legal assistance services. The three year service contracts will cover FY2011-2013. Sterling Neuman made a motion for approval; Dean Murphy seconded. With no further discussion and the abstentions of Steve Saldana, Sharon Baughman, and Dean Murphy, the motion carried.
- Request was presented for approval to apply for a \$70,248 grant from the Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS). The overall purpose of this grant is to provide information and counseling regarding rights and benefits available to older persons and persons with disabilities as it relates to Medicare, various types of private insurance and community based services. CMS funds are intended to enhance the ability of AAAs to perform broad and ongoing information, counseling and assistance functions. Sharon Baughman made a motion for approval; Julia Castellano-Hoyt seconded. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

C. Family Caregiver Support – Nancy Rheams reported on the progress of the development of the Caregiver brochure, which will increase awareness of caregiver issues.

D. Information, Special Events – There being no official report, Julia Castellano-Hoyt asked, as a member of this subcommittee, about the upcoming Ice Cream Social. Martha Spinks reported that with a transition of staff, the new liaison for this subcommittee would be in contact with members for the planning of this event.

E. Long Term Care Services – Valerie Taylor presented report as written.

- F. Nominations/Bylaws and Legislative – Sharon Baughman reported.
- The subcommittee has accepted the resignation of Ruth Garcia and her alternate, Betty Cotulla Child, and is in the process of making contact with some members who have become inactive.
  - Request was presented for the approval of the following BSAC member and alternate appointments to be presented to the AACOG Board:
    1. Diane Jules: to fill the member seat of Ruth Garcia (who has resigned), term-ending date of December 31, 2010. Diane is the Coordinator of Respite and Contract Adult Day Health Care Programs at Audie L Murphy VA Hospital.
    2. Victor Garcia, as alternate to Diane Jules. Victor is Assistant Chief of Social Work Services at South Texas Veterans Health Care System.
    3. Hamid Mangalji, as alternate to Marolyn Stubblefield. Hamid is the owner of Cardinal Senior Care, in San Antonio.Sterling Neuman made a motion for approval; Nancy Rheams seconded. With no further discussion, the motion carried.
  - The subcommittee will be working to identify new candidates to fill the member and alternate vacancies. Any recommendations should be forwarded to Paula Wanken.
9. Alamo Service Connection (ASC) Steering Committee – no report.
10. Next Meeting Date: Friday, April 9, 2010; 10:00 a.m.
11. There being no further business, Dean Murphy made a motion for adjournment, Valerie Taylor seconded; the motion carried.