



**AmeriCorps Seniors Advisory Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**February 11, 2025**

**Members Present**

Nelson Bank  
Angie Garcia  
Jose Limon  
Christina Olivares  
Gilda Wilson

Gloria Boyer  
Armida H. Hernandez  
Barbara Martinez  
Alfred Reeves

**Members Absent**

Kaaren Kimball  
Dr. Robert Muñoz  
Nati Muñoz  
Jerardo Navarro  
Patricia Williams

**Staff Present**

Sandra Serrano  
Noemi Saldaña  
Lorraine Hernandez  
Valerie Ferman  
Eva Krebsbach  
Jo Ann Rodriguez  
Bettina Olivares

**Call to Order and Quorum Count**

Meeting met quorum and started at 10:00 a.m.

**Approval of minutes**

Advisory approved meeting minutes from January 14, 2025.

**New Business-RSVP**

**Recognition Banquet**

We will be hosting the RSVP Recognition Banquet on Saturday, June 14, 2025 at EPCC Administrative Services Auditorium. This year's banquet will only include RSVP. The timelines for the RSVP and FGP grant and funding do not align, and having separate banquets work best. FGP hosted their recognition event in December 2024.

AARP will be sponsoring our banquet. It will help cover expenses, but no amount has been finalized. We used to have a partnership with an AARP group. This is a new effort in El Paso, and the director is working on promoting AARP in El Paso.

A Donation Letter has been e-mailed to Advisory. For any questions, you can contact Sandra or Lorraine. We can mail hardcopies if you need that, and we can schedule a call as well to review the Donation Letter. The Donation Letter helps introduce yourself as an AmeriCorps Seniors Advisory Council member and can be used to request a door prize for the banquet. The business will have a complimentary calling card ad placed in the program if they donate a door prize. For door prizes, a calling card is all that is needed. There is no contract for door prizes.

We are starting early to give Advisory ample time to secure a door prize. There is no deadline for door prizes. The deadline for an advertisement ad in the program is on May 12, 2025. If a business or restaurant provides a check, they can make it payable to the City of El Paso, and receipt will be sent. All the funds received will go back into the banquet. Sandra has asked Advisory to secure a door prize(s) and to seek ads for the banquet program.

**April Volunteer Month**

We were attempting to host the recognition banquet in April for Volunteer Month. We ask Advisory to brainstorm ideas for activities for volunteer month. We do not have a budget for Volunteer Month, so it has to be something cost-effective. Please e-mail Lorraine with your ideas.



### **New Business-FGP**

#### **Texas Senior Corp Association Conference (TSCA)**

Valerie Ferman reported that FGP staff attends the TSCA Conference every year; it is sponsored by their grant. All three of FGP staff will attend the conference from March 3 to March 5, 2025. FGP learns new ideas to implement in El Paso.

#### **New Volunteer Training**

FGP's New Volunteer Training is scheduled from February 17-19, 2025 at the Center for Civic Empowerment.

#### **New Volunteer Placement**

The El Paso Independent School District is going through redistricting. We have lost two schools, Zavala Elementary School is closing in June 2025, and Travis Elementary School is closing in 2026. Volunteers will be placed at Dr. Joseph Torres Elementary School and at Logan Elementary School. Douglas Elementary School will be a new site and they will receive the volunteer from Zavala Elementary School.

#### **FGP Grant Renewal Application**

FGP is in its third year of their current grant. The grant ends on June 30, 2025.

FGP will be applying for a new grant. They plan to increase their goal of recruiting 75 volunteers. FGP has been in existence in El Paso since 1981. The proposal is due on March 10, 2025. Because of the new White House Administration, FGP is waiting on the Portfolio Manager regarding the verbiage on the proposal and how to proceed.

#### **Suggestions for the Good of the Council**

There were no suggestions for the good of the council to report.

### **Adjourned**

Meeting adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

### **Next meeting**

We are not having a meeting in the month of March.