



CAN Board of Directors Meeting

01/09/26 Minutes

Location: Virtual Zoom Meeting

Present: Celso Báez III, CapMetro; Sylvia Calderon, Housing Authority of Central Austin (HACA); Chris Cervini, Austin Community College; Aaron DeLao, United Way for Greater Austin; Simone Talma Flowers, Interfaith Action of Central Texas (iACT); Juan Garza, (Central Health); Joshua Jeon, Austin ISD; Hal Katz, Integral Care; Laura La Fuente, Austin Public Health; Jeremy Martin, Austin Chamber of Commerce; Rudy Metayer, Council Member, City of Pflugerville; Regan Moffitt, St. David's Foundation; Pat Reyes, Manor ISD; Pilar Sanchez, Travis County; Sona Shah, City of Austin; Jeffrey Travillion, Precinct 1 Commissioner, Travis County; Tamey Williams-Hill, Manor ISD;

CAN Staff in attendance: Raul Alvarez, Jelina Tunstill, Carlos Soto

Call To Order, Welcome: Executive Director Raul Alvarez called the meeting to order at 1:04 pm and welcomed folks in attendance. Members followed up with introductions.

Passing of the Gavel: Raul thanked Commissioner Travillion for his service as 2025 Chair and introduced 2026 chair Chris Cervini. Commissioner Travillion & Cervini both thanked CAN members for the opportunity to serve and underscored the importance of collaborative community efforts like CAN by highlighting the importance of recent initiatives.

Minutes: The August 8 and December 12 Board Meeting minutes were approved after a motion submitted by Commissioner Travillion was seconded by Juan Garza. The motion was approved unanimously.

Community Council Report: Staff provided a brief update of current activities and plans for 2026.

Executive Director's Report: Raul summarized CAN's milestones in 2025, highlighting the 30th anniversary celebration (where we introduced the new Transformational Impact Award), the Creating a Welcoming Community fundraising luncheon to support language access work, the Data & Research Roundup coordinated in partnership with the Dashboard Steering Committee, The Community Council's Building Community Forums on the importance of social capital and removing barriers to economic mobility, and the Expanding Opportunity Forum on how changing "narratives" about apprenticeships is needed to help diversity participation.

Next, Raul shared a preview of the work CAN has planned for 2026, beginning with the release of our update Dashboard Report and introduction of our new Economic Mobility Report in January. In March we will be hosting the CAN Celebration & Butler Awards Presentation (March 25). Expanding Opportunity Forums on Earn & Learn opportunities are also scheduled in January, March, and May, and the training series called "From Dialogue to Action: Race Equity Principles in Practice" will take place in April and September. The 2nd Annual "Creating a Welcoming Community Lunch" is planned for September, and our 2nd Annual Data & Research Roundup will take place in October.

Presentation & Discussion, 2026 Budget: Alvarez shared an overview of the 2026 budget, including the following key drivers: The City of Austin's 10% cut to social service contracts, UT's reduction of funding due to DEI concerns, an increase of healthcare costs, reduced administrative expenses, and reserve fund use. This was followed by a detailed explanation of the year-to-date budget showing the previously highlighted items. For this year, we will need to use reserve funds to balance the budget. However, there are still funds which have not come in yet but are expected from several partners. We have discussed with Executive Committee the possibility of expanding membership and increasing contributions overall, as well as the possibility of moving our fiscal year to begin on April 1 instead of January 1, to have 6 months to bill the members whose fiscal years begin on October 1. Commissioner Travillion mentioned it might be wise to focus some time this year on fundraising and developing strategies to help increase revenue. It may be a good idea to expand the field from which partners are drawn, such as private entities presently involved in public-private partnerships. Commissioner Travillion submitted a motion to accept the 2026 budget as presented. The motion, seconded by Chris Cervini, passed unanimously.

Presentation & Discussion, 2026 Work Plan: Key insights for new action items include: an intentional focus on Economic Mobility (demonstrated by publishing the Economic Mobility Report, Expanding Opportunity Forums,

Expanding Opportunity Summit, and the Community Council's work on Social Capital), an intentional focus on organizational sustainability, identifying opportunities for CAN board members to connect with each other, and clarifying & strengthening roles for Community Council and Dashboard Steering Committee. This was followed by a deeper dive into specific work items, including developing a multi-lingual Community Resource Guide relating to "Housing." Raul also explained his intention to transition from producing a podcast to maintaining a community calendar that can be shared a couple of times per month (in addition to the monthly newsletter). Commissioner Travillion submitted a motion to accept the 2026 work plan as presented. The motion, seconded by Sylvia Calderon, passed unanimously.

Networking Luncheons: Korey connected.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.