



DOWNTOWN COMMISSION MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2013**

The Downtown Commission convened in a meeting on Wednesday, January 16, 2013, at 301 W. 2nd St. in Austin, Texas.

Vice Chair Heather Way called the meeting to order at 5:43 p.m.

Downtown Commissioners in Attendance:

Heather Way (Vice Chair), Martin Barrera, Mandy Dealey, Tina Fernandez, Jude Galligan, Dan Leary, Rich MacKinnon, Lynn Osgood, Joel Sher, Myron Smith, Joah Spearman, Heather Way, Bruce Willenzik

City Staff in Attendance:

Michael Knox, Mona Sanchez and David Murray, EGRSO; Assistant Chiefs David Carter and Raul Munguia, APD; Jim Robertson, DPRD; Rey Hernandez, PARD

1. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

There were no citizens speaking under general communications.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 17, 2012 MEETING

The minutes from the October 17, 2012 meeting were approved on a 8-0-1 vote on Commissioner Sher's motion and Commissioner Willenzik's second, with Commissioner Smith abstaining.

4. PUBLIC SAFETY AND QUALITY OF LIFE

The Commission received a presentation from Assistant Chiefs David Carter and Raul Munguia, APD.

After a discussion, a motion to support the continuation of APD's Public Order Initiative was approved on Commissioner Sher's motion, Commissioner Smith's second, on a 10-0-2 vote, with Commissioners Fernandez and Spearman abstaining.

5. RAINEY ST. VENUE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM CASE STUDY FOR SOUND MITIGATION

The Commission received a briefing from David Murray, EGRSO Music Office

After a discussion, a motion to form a Working Group, to study and make recommendations on policies to address the amplified sound issue in the Rainey Street district, was approved on Commissioner Dealey's motion, Commissioner MacKinnon's second, on a 12-0 vote. An amendment by Commissioner Galligan and seconded by Commissioner Spearman that the working group expressly make a recommendation on a conditional overlay for Rainey Street,

failed. Commissioners Barrera, Dealey, Galligan and MacKinnon agreed to serve on the Working Group. The working will report back to the full commission at the March 20, 2013 meeting.

6. 401 GUADALUPE ST., 304 W. 4TH ST., AND 400 LAVACA ST (C14-2012-0130) – REZONING FROM CBD TO CBD-CURE

The Commission received briefings from representatives of the project.

After a discussion, a motion to recommend that the developer submit an alternative design that reduces parking and addresses the Plaza Loft residents' concerns about the location and design of the parking, was approved with two friendly amendments, on Commissioner Fernandez's motion, Commissioner Dealey's second, on a 10-1 vote, with Commissioner Sher voting no and Commissioner Spearman off the dais. The friendly amendment from Commissioner Dealey was to recommend to the City Council that the zoning change be tied to a design that takes into account the residents' concerns with the parking, and the friendly amendment from Commissioner Osgood was that the developer develop a plan to address the Plaza Loft residents' concerns related to noise generated from the pool deck.

7. UPDATE ON REPUBLIC SQUARE MASTER PLAN

The Commission received a briefing from Rey Hernandez, PARD and Rebecca Leonard, Design Workshop. The Commission will take action on any recommendations at their March 20, 2013 meeting.

8. UPDATE ON DOWNTOWN AUSTIN PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The Commission received a briefing from Jim Robertson, PDRD and Michael Knox, EGRSO.

9. ADOPTION OF REVISED COMMISSION BYLAWS

A motion to adopt the revised bylaws was approved on Commissioner Dealey's motion, Commission Galligan's second, on a 9-0 vote, with Commissioners Fernandez, Leary and Spearman off the dais

10. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

Vice Chair Way handed out information on the working group studying a pilot project to convert a downtown alley into a temporary public space.

11. STRATEGIC PLANNING / WORK PLAN

Staff will poll the commission on two possible dates (February 13 and February 27) to conduct a commission strategic planning / work plan session.

12. NEW ITEMS FOR INFORMATION FROM COMMISSIONERS

13. ITEMS FROM STAFF

14. POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Bike Share Program

Downtown Community Court

15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30pm.