



DOWNTOWN COMMISSION MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2013**

The Downtown Commission convened in a meeting on Wednesday, February 20, 2013, at 301 W. 2nd St. in Austin, Texas.

Chair Bart Whatley called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

Downtown Commissioners in Attendance:

Bart Whatley (Chair), Heather Way (Vice Chair), Martin Barrera, Mandy Dealey, Jude Galligan, Dan Leary, Lynn Osgood, Joel Sher, Myron Smith, and Bruce Willenzik

City Staff in Attendance:

Michael Knox, Mona Sanchez, EGRSO

1. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

There were no citizens speaking under general communications.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY, 2012 MEETING

The minutes from the February 20, 2013 meeting were approved on an 8-0 vote on Commissioner Dealey's motion, and Commissioner Sher's second, with Commissioner Leary recusing himself.

4. UPDATE ON WALLER CREEK AND THE WALLER CREEK CONSERVANCY

The Commission received a presentation from Stephanie McDonald of the Waller Creek Conservancy.

No action was taken.

5. C14-2012-0079 ACC 1218 West Ave. – Rezoning from SF-3 and P to DMU; C14-2012-0080 ACC 1204 West. Ave – Rezoning from LO, MF-4 and CS to DMU; C14-2012-0081 ACC Block 153 – Rezoning from UNZ (unzoned) and UNZ-H to DMU and DMU-H, and; C14-2012-0082 ACC Block 152 – Rezoning from GO and LR-CO to DMU

The Commission recommended approval of the zoning requests with the following conditions:

- DMU with a sixty foot height limit
- Inclusion of participation in the Austin Great Streets

- Prohibit restaurant general and cocktail lounges
- All prohibited uses included in the 1/17/13 Original Austin Neighborhood Association letter:

Automotive Repair Services, Bail Bond Services, Exterminating Services, Guidance Services, Outdoor Entertainment, Telecommunication Tower, Automotive Sales, Counseling Services, Funeral Services, Liquor Sales, Pawn Shop Services, Restaurant (Drive-in), Automotive Washing, Drop-Off Recycling Collection Facility, Financial Services, Local Utility Services, Residential Treatment, Service Station, and any use requiring an outdoor music permit.

6. WORKING GROUPS

A. Vice Chair Heather Way reported on the Working Group studying a pilot project to convert a downtown alley into a temporary public space.

B. Commissioner Galligan reported on the Working Group studying Rainey Street noise issues and recommendations.

C. Commissioner Smith reported on the Working Group developing a recommendation on which downtown projects the Planning Commission would seek the Downtown Commission's input before Planning Commission action.

7. NEW ITEMS FOR INFORMATION FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS

Commissioner Dealey requested that staff distribute the 12/2008 City of Austin Neighborhood Planning Guide to Zoning to all commission members.

8. ITEMS FROM STAFF

- Michael Knox reported top priorities from the 2/27/2013 Commission Retreat that Commission members would like to pursue.
- Commissioners were reminded of the 3/29/13 deadline to register to continue using the City's email system.

9. POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Discuss the formation of working groups to implement top priorities identified in the 2/27/2013 Commission Retreat.
- Update on Congress Avenue planters.
- Update on Seaholm Wall AIPP project.
- Update at the June meeting from Senator Watson on the plans for the Capital Complex.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.