



**DOWNTOWN COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2013**

The Downtown Commission convened in a meeting on Wednesday, August 21, 2013, at 301 W. 2nd St. in Austin, Texas.

Chair Bart Whatley called the meeting to order at 5:50 p.m.

Downtown Commissioners in Attendance:

Bart Whatley (Chair), Heather Way (Vice Chair), Martin Barrera, Jude Galligan, Dan Leary, Richard MacKinnon, Joel Sher, Myron Smith, Bruce Willenzik

City Staff in Attendance:

Michael Knox and Mona Sanchez, EGRSO, Gordon Derr, Frances Hargrove and Jake Dirr, ATD; Jim Robertson, PDRD; Annette Moreno, Austin Resource Recovery; Commander William Manno, APD

1. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

Brad Spies, chair of the Austin Music Commission, spoke to the commission about the creation of a Red River Cultural District.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JULY 17, 2013 MEETING

The minutes from the July 17, 2013 meeting were approved on a 9-0 vote on Commissioner Way's motion, and Commissioner Galligan's second.

**4. RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE CREATION OF ADDITIONAL
DOWNTOWN AUSTIN PLAN DISTRICT PLANS (INCLUDING RAINEY STREET)
AND THE ROLE OF RAINEY ALLEYS**

The Commission received a presentation from Vice Chair Way and input from Jim Robertson, PDRD, on the Rainey Street Working Group's recommendation to develop a Rainey Street District Plan.

A Motion to support the recommendation, with minor revisions, was made by Vice Chair Way, and Commissioner Willenzik's second on a vote of 8-0 with Commissioner Leary abstaining.

5. DRAFT SPECIAL EVENTS ORDINANCE

The Commission received a presentation from Gordon Derr, Assistant Director, COA ATD, with assistance from Commander William Manno, APD.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Willenzik and Commission Galligan's second to approve the work thus far with certain reservations that include:

- Timely notifications so that impacted institutions, facilities, businesses etc., can adjust plans accordingly.
- Safety issues being addressed within the middle of an event.
- Staff gets flexibility in determining when APD is needed with barricade and traffic control plans.
- Alternative to the proposed appeal process.
- Supporting Capital Metro in their transportation impact fee idea.
- Developing the concept of the application turn around window for each of the four tiers.
- Ensure the approval process include input from stakeholders.
- Expand Tier 4 to include that the application be submitted at least a minimum of 270 days in advance of the event.

Vote passed on a vote of 8-0-1 with Commissioner Sher off the dais.

6. WORKING GROUPS

- Commissioner Smith reported on the Working Group to develop a recommendation on which downtown projects the Planning Commission (PC) would seek the Downtown Commission's input before PC action.

The Planning Commission will discuss and take action at their August 27, 2013 meeting.

- Chair Whatley reported that Commissioner Osgood had resigned from the Commission which leaves a vacancy for Chair of this Working Group.
- Vice Chair Way reported on the Downtown Plan Implementation Working Group.
- No new working groups were created.

7. NEW ITEMS OF INFORMATION FROM COMMISSIONERS

- Commissioner MacKinnon reported that the Urban Transportation Commission (UTC) discussed Side Car Lift item was discussed and the action taken was staff recommended a change to the ordinance that would state that if you are providing transportation you can charge up to \$0.56 a mile.
- Capital Metro provided UTC with a presentation on the proposed service changes.

8. ITEMS FROM STAFF

- Staff had no items to present.

9. POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Red River Cultural District
- Public Open Space Working Group
- Downtown Plan Implementation Working Group

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.