



**DOWNTOWN COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 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 5:40 p.m.

Downtown Commissioners in Attendance:

Bart Whatley (Chair), Martin Barrera, Mandy Dealey, Jude Galligan, Dan Leary, Richard MacKinnon, Sunshine Mathon, Joel Sher, Myron Smith, Bruce Willenzik

City Staff in Attendance:

Michael Knox and Mona Sanchez, EGRSO

1. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

Mark Vornberg, Senior Associate, Dick Clark & Associates gave a presentation on their Texas PTA redesign project variance request that will be going to the Planning Commission.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 21, 2013 MEETING

The minutes from the August 21, 2013 meeting were approved on a 9-0 vote on Commissioner Willenzik's motion, and Commissioner Smith's second with Commissioner Mathon abstaining.

4. RED RIVER CULTURAL DISTRICT

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

A Motion to support the creation of a Red River Cultural District was made by Commissioner Galligan and Commissioner Willenzik's second on a vote of 10-0.

5. WORKING GROUPS

- A. 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 Commission agreed that they would like to review other City commission reports prior to planning and zoning cases coming to the Commission.

- B. Commissioner Mathon requested that the Downtown Public Open Space Working Group be brought back for discussion at the October 16, 2013 meeting.
- C. Commission Dealey reported the Downtown Plan Implementation Working Group is working on a list of priorities.
- D. No new working groups were created.

6. ITEMS OF INFORMATION FROM COMMISSIONERS

- Commissioner Mathon reported that there was a ground breaking for Capital Studios.
- Commissioner MacKinnon reported that the street striping for the transit priority lanes has begun on Guadalupe Street and Lavaca Street and buses will begin testing the lanes in November and December, with RapidBus service beginning in January, 2014.
- Commissioner MacKinnon reported that a UTC sub-committee had been formed to continue conversation regarding ride share apps and how they would affect Transportation Network Companies (TNC).
- Chair Whatley reported that the Design Commission continues to work on infrastructure design guidelines.

7. ITEMS FROM STAFF

- Per Vice Chair Way's request staff distributed information on an upcoming presentation and discussion about public markets.

9. POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Election of Commission Officers (October)
- Adoption of Commission 2014 meeting schedule (November)
- Busking Initiative (October or November)
- Zoning Case C14-2013-0111
- Land Development Code rewrite
- Brazos Street Bench Removal
- Proposed Realignment of Red River for Medical School

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 p.m.