



AUSTIN MUSIC COMMISSION MINUTES
Regular Meeting – Monday, April 7, 2014, 6:30 P.M.
Austin City Hall, 301 West 2nd Street, Austin, Texas 78701
Board and Commission Rm. 1101

Commissioners in attendance: Brad Spies, Rich Garza, Heather Wagner Reed, Nakia Reynoso, Lindsey Sokol, Marc Fort

Staff in attendance: Don Pitts, Ashley Buchanan

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:41 p.m.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the Regular Meeting of February 3, 2014 were approved on Reynoso's motion, Sokol's second, 6-0 vote.

C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

1. Sunni Soper – thanked commission for allowing a platform for musicians to speak about music issues in the community
2. Amberly Russell –Envision, Design, Create; presented about a campaign being launched to get musical instruments into Sims Elementary
3. Joseph Vaughn – promoted pay to play concept
4. Molly Nye – shared business idea to create a local website (i.e. local Pandora) for local artists to share their music
5. Reenie Collins – HAAM; introduced herself to commission
6. Tyson Swindell – Red 7; spoke about the Musician Loading Zone program and proposed simplifying the current model; convert traffic lane into commercial loading zone for musicians; getting rid of hangtags and complicated process; Elysium and Beerland do not have alleys for loading zones to be put in place
7. Sarah Rucker – Texas Folk Life; introduced the organization to commission; April 26 from 2-6pm at Bob Bullock museum – finals for the accordion contest
8. Lauren Bruno – Les Rav; promoted artists who are preserving local murals, "Save the Murals"
9. Erica Braverman - Austin Friends of Traditional Music; would like to promote traditional music via busking
10. Hector Reyes – Austin Tejano Music Coalition; updated commission on activities
11. Aggie Sanchez – Plaza Saltillo; updated commission on activities
12. Rosendo Gomez – Crossroad Events; updated commission on activities

13. Johnny Limon – Austin Tejano Music Coalition; would like to continue being a part of the Austin music scene
14. Brad Stein/Kelly Goldstein – Austin Music Foundation; updated commission on AMF, moving into new location at SouthShores in 10-12 weeks; next Creative Media Center panel on April 30 from 7-9pm at Soundcheck, “Additional Revenue Streams”
15. Jennifer Houlihan – Austin Music People; invited commission to April 12-20 for SXSW Cares; 350 signatures for clarifying busking ordinance with APD

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion and possible action to appoint a commissioner to the Toronto-Austin Music City Alliance.
 - i. Reynoso motioned to appoint Wagner-Reed to the alliance, Fort seconded the motion, passed on 6-0 vote.
2. Discussion and possible action of holding public meetings in regards to Resolution No. 20140327-036 that calls for a post-event evaluation.
 - i. Town hall meeting scheduled on May 6th from 11am-2pm in the Board & Commission Rm., to gather input from the public.
3. Discussion and possible action of funding models for special events.
 - i. Brad Stein – AMF; proposed a funding mechanism to help fund costs for certain special events through Occupancy Taxes, while also ensuring that the Austin Convention Center, Austin Convention & Visitors Bureau, and Cultural Arts Division receive increased funding based on the growth in the number of hotel rooms due to special event tourism.
 - ii. Spies said that this is a good idea to use new revenue to fund special events, and that avoiding the general fund is ideal in making sure that special events have the ability to sustain financially on their own.
 - iii. Garza motioned to explore alternative disbursements of incremental hot tax starting in 2015 with the goal of moving city co-sponsorship funds from the general fund to a new fund; Spies seconded the motion; 6-0 vote.
4. Discussion and possible action of Musician Loading/Unloading Zone Program.
 - i. Spies compared the Seattle’s Musician Loading Zone program to Austin’s/ Seattle’s program is free to musicians and venues, signs are placed in front of venues with 15-minute priority access to musicians for unloading and loading.
 - ii. Reynoso motioned to have staff talk to Austin Transportation Department and research ways to improve the program, Wager-Reed seconded the motion; passed on 5-0 vote (Garza voted nay).
5. Discussion and possible action on busking/street performances.
 - i. Garza suggested that buskers have a curfew that coincides with sound cutoff times at venues in the entertainment districts.
 - ii. Lindsey – Austin Buskers Festival; two large pitches in Art City, invited local and international buskers to raise awareness; has been a busker for 8 years and makes a living off busking, rarely busks in Austin and gets hassled by APD for taking up too much space on sidewalk. Believes ambiguity is a problem; so many frustrated artists.

- iii. Spies proposes to create a working group (Fort, Reynoso and Stallone) to research best practices and bring back to June meeting, Fort seconded the motion; passes 6-0 vote.
6. Discussion and possible action of Sixth Street Entertainment District crime statistics.
- i. Garza encouraged citizens to bring awareness of this issue to public safety and downtown commissions.
 - ii. Public transit system isn't 24/7 and needs to be discussed.
 - iii. Spies asked Sokol to inquire the downtown commission.

E. MEMBER UPDATES

- 1. Wagner-Reed promotes Art City and Black Fret.

F. STAFF BRIEFINGS

- 1. Atxmusic.org launched today.

G. ADJOURNMENT

The Commission adjourned at 9:06 p.m. on Spies' motion, Garza's second, with a unanimous 6-0 vote.