



Tourism Commission
March 18, 2019
6:30pm
Palmer Events Center
900 Barton Springs Rd.
Austin, TX 78704

MINUTES

In Attendance:

Alta Alexander
Vanessa Fuentes
Edward Bailey
Rachel Magee
Scott Joslove
John Riedie
Mike Cannatti
Catlin Whittington

Absence:

Bill Bunch

Staff and Other In Attendance:

Felicia Ojeda, Austin Convention Center Department
Kristy Breaux, Texas Computer Education Association, Convention Center Expansion
Scott Johnson, Citizen Communication- Sustainable Tourism
Carla Steffen, Deputy Director, Austin Convention Center Department
Christine Cramer, Director of Market Analysis & Research, Visit Austin
Steve Genovesi, Executive Vice President, Visit Austin

AGENDA

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

- a. Meeting called to order at 6:38pm by Chair, Catlin Whittington
- b. Roll Call of the Commissioners present (all present, minus Bill Bunch)

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 6:40pm

- a. January 14, 2019 – Commissioner Joslove and Commissioner Riedie motioned to approve minutes. Approved by all present commissioners
- b. February 11, 2019 – Commissioner Joslove and Commissioner Riedie motioned to approve minutes. Approved by all present commissioners

3. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: 6:42pm

- a. Kristy Breau, Texas Computer Education Association, Expansion of the Convention Center
- b. Scott Johnson, Sustainable Tourism

4. OLD BUSINESS: 6:47pm

The Commission discussed the following agenda item:

- a. Briefing on the Allocation of Hotel Occupancy Tax funds and financial operations results for the City of Austin compared to other cities over multi-year period. - Carla Steffen, Deputy Director & CFO, Austin Convention Center Department

5. NEW BUSINESS: 7:07pm

The Commission discussed the following agenda item:

- a. General Discussion regarding the state of the Hotel Occupancy Tax funds related to past and current growth pattern
 - a. Deliberation of Short- Term Rentals to discuss into further details and possible recommendations to city council
- b. Briefing presentation by Christine Cramer, Visit Austin, regarding Demand data and unmet requests.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: 8:26pm

- a. The Commission may discuss and identify future agenda items, topics, or presentations
 - i. Received recommendations from the University of Texas study on the Austin Convention Center
 - ii. Discuss future working groups for Sustainable tourism
 - iii. Discuss Dallas Convention Center business model of operations
 - iv. Vote for Vice Chair next meeting

7. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Chair, Catlin Whittington adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm
 - i. Motioned to adjourn the meeting by Commissioners Joslove and Whittington.