



DOWNTOWN COMMISSION MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 2021**

The Downtown Commission convened in a meeting on Wednesday, April 21st, 2021 at 301 W. 2nd Street in virtual videoconferencing.

Downtown Commissioners in Attendance:

Chair August Harris, Vice Chair Christopher Lehman, Commissioner Ben Heimsath, Commissioner David Gomez, Commissioner Laura Templeton, Commissioner Nelly Paulina Ramirez, Commissioner Preston Reine, Commissioner Chris Kanipe, Commissioner Megan Meisenbach, Commissioner Melissa Haneo-Robleo, Commissioner Cynthia Weatherby, Commissioner Mike Lavigne

Downtown Commissioners Not in Attendance:

Commissioner Jim Schissler, Commissioner Joel Sher, Commissioner kYmberly Keeton, Commissioner Kimberly Taylor, Commissioner Douglas Leveton

City Staff in Attendance:

Mona Sanchez and Christine Maguire, Economic Development Department

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MARCH 17, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Meisenbach motioned to approve the March 17th, 2020 meeting minutes with Commissioner Gomez' second on a motion of 8-0.

2. NEW BUSINESS

- Discussion and Possible Action

a. Election of Officers

Commissioner Meisenbach motioned to renominate Chair Harris to continue to serve as Chair of the Downtown Commission with Vice Chair Lehman's second on a vote of 8-0.

b. Joint Downtown Commission and Music Commission Meeting

Commissioner Meisenbach motioned to authorize Downtown Commission COA staff to work with COA Music Commission staff to coordinate a joint meeting between the two commissions with Vice Chair Lehman's second on a vote of 8-0.

c. Austin Economic Development Corporation (AEDC)

Item postponed.

d. **Downtown Austin Alliance Foundation (DAAF)**

The Commission received a presentation from Molly Alexander, Downtown Austin Alliance Foundation.

No action was taken.

e. **House Bill 3813: Regulating Amplified Sound**

The Commission received a presentation from Taylor Ward, Senior Intergovernmental Relations Coordinator, COA Intergovernmental Relations Office.

Commissioner Meisenbach motioned to oppose HB 3813 with Vice Chair Lehman's second on a vote of 8-0.

3. OLD BUSINESS

Items from representatives of collaborating commissions including non-voting members

a. Update from Commissioner Melissa Henao-Robledo on recent activities and actions taken by the Design Commission

No updates.

b. Update from Commissioner Ben Heimsath on recent activities and actions taken by the Historic Landmark Commission

Commissioner reported that the HLC was working on a certified local government grant and working to revise the Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan.

c. Update from Commissioner Cynthia Weatherby on recent activities and actions taken by the Urban Transportation Commission

Commissioner Weatherby reported that the UTC had received an update on the Corridor Project and continuing to follow the I35 expansion.

d. Update from Commissioner kYmberly Keeton on recent activities and actions taken by the Arts Commission

Commissioner Keeton was absent.

e. Update from Commissioner Douglas Leveton on recent activities and actions taken by the Music Commission

Commissioner Leveton was absent.

f. Update from Commissioner Kimberly Taylor on recent activities and actions taken by the Parks & Recreation Board

Commissioner Taylor was absent.

g. Update from Commissioner Nelly Paulina Ramirez on recent activities and actions taken by the Public Safety Commission

Commissioner Ramirez reported that the PSC received budget presentations from COA public safety agencies and discussed additional support for mental health training.

2. POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Homelessness/Future Panel Discussion: Dianna Grey, ECHO, Community First Village, Esperanza Community, DAA/Bill Brice
- Convention Center Expansion
- HEAL Initiative

Adjournment 7:12 P.M