



Visitor Impact Task Force
February 14, 2017
2:00pm
Austin Convention Center
Meeting Room 5abc
500 E. Cesar Chavez
Austin, TX 78701

MINUTES

In Attendance:

Gavin Garcia, Music Industry Representative
Lulu Flores, Arts Community Representative
MariBen Ramsey, Arts Community Representative
James Russell, Special Events Industry Representative
Julie Niehoff, Special Events Industry Representative
Tom Noonan, Austin Convention & Visitors Bureau Representative
Shelly Schadegg, Hotel Industry Representative
Bill Worsham- Public Safety Community Representative
Alyson McGee- Preservation Community Representative
Dan Keshet- Parks Community Representative
Mark Tester- Convention Center Representative
Dewitt Peart- Downtown Commission Representative
Ashwin Ghatalia- Tourism Workforce Representative
Stephen Sternschein- Tourism Workforce Representative
Pam Thompson- Environmental Community Representative
Sara Hartley- Public Works Department Representative (ex-officio)
Gordon Derr- Transportation Department Representative (ex-officio)

Absent:

Catlin Whittington, Music Industry Representative
Jonathan Mahone- Community Member Representative
Skeeter Miller- Restaurant Industry Representative

Staff and Others In Attendance:

Mark Washington, ACM
Larry Schooler, CPIO, Facilitator
Felicia Ojeda, Austin Convention Center Department
Leela Fireside, City of Austin, Law Department
Diana Thomas, City of Austin Controller Office
Richard Scheel, City of Austin Controller Office
Paul Barnes, Austin Convention Center
Jim Halbrook, Aviation
Tom Sweeny, Austin Police Department
Sara Hartley, Public Works
Jason Maurer, Parks and Recreation Department

Staff and Others In Attendance:

Mike Cannatti, Barton Springs Conservancy

Mateo Barnstone, Value of Downtown Grid

Bill Bunch, Barton Springs/ Art

Zenobia C. Joseph, Item 7 New Business Deadline with the New East Austin Project (Ch.351)

AGENDA

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

- a. Meeting called to order at 2:03pm by Chair, James Russell

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

- a. Mike Cannatti, Barton Springs Conservancy
- b. Mateo Barnstone, Value of Downtown Grid
- c. Bill Bunch, Barton Springs/ Art
- d. Zenobia C. Joseph, Item 7 New Business Deadline with the New East Austin Project (Ch.351)

3. Approval of Minutes from January 31, 2017 Meeting

4. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Larry Schooler deliberated with the Task Force to approve and establish a future schedule of Task Force meetings.

5. BRIEFING:

- a. Diana Thomas and Richard Scheel with City of Austin Controller Office, presented the Hotel Occupancy Tax- Collections Process.
- b. Leela Fireside, City of Austin Law Department, presented the legal framework of Chapter 334 Texas Local Government Code for funding venue projects.
- c. Assistant City Manager Mark Washington, reviewed Council Resolution #20170209-033 directing the City Manager to provide information and options to fund and complete work on landmarks and projects in the eastern area of downtown Austin.
- d. Panel Discussion with city departments on Impacts of Tourism on City of Austin Departments – (Austin Convention Center (Paul Barnes), Aviation (Jim Halbrook), Austin Police Department (Tom Sweeny), Public Works (Sara Hartley), and Parks and Recreation Department (Jason Maurer)

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. James Russell and MariBen Ramsey discussed and voted with the Task Force members approval to request for deadline extension to City Council.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Discussed possible recommendations on items for future agendas

8. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Meeting Adjourned at 4:46pm

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For more information on the Visitor Impact Task Force, please contact Felicia Ojeda at 512.404.4022, felicia.ojeda@austintexas.gov.