



Visitor Impact Task Force  
March 28, 2017  
3:00pm  
Austin Convention Center  
Meeting Room 19ab  
500 E. Cesar Chavez  
Austin, TX 78701

## **MINUTES**

### **In Attendance:**

Gavin Garcia - Music Industry Representative  
Catlin Whittington - Music Industry Representative  
Lulu Flores - Arts Community Representative  
MariBen Ramsey - Arts Community 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  
Jonathan Mahone - Community Member Representative  
Pam Thompson - Environmental Community Representative  
Richard Mendoza - Public Works Department Representative (ex-officio)

### **Absent:**

James Russell - Special Events Industry Representative  
Stephen Sternschein - Tourism Workforce Representative  
Skeeter Miller - Restaurant Industry Representative  
Gordon Derr - Transportation Department Representative (ex-officio)

### **Staff and Others In Attendance:**

Mark Washington, ACM  
Larry Schooler, CPIO, Facilitator  
Felicia Ojeda, Austin Convention Center Department  
Bill Clabby, Austin Sister Cities International  
Jake Rosenberg, Austin Sister Cities International – donated time  
Rebecca Melancon, ABIA IBIZ Districts  
Dean Lofton, ABIA IBIZ Districts – donated time  
Bill Bunch, SOS Alliance  
JJ Langston, Parks Preservations Presentation  
Joanna Wolaver, Parks Preservations Presentation

**Staff and Others In Attendance: (con't)**

Andy Gill, Parks Preservations Presentation – donated time

Mike Cannatti, Parks Preservation

Brian Ott, Parks Preservations Presentation – donated time

Ted Siff, Parks Preservations Presentation – donated time

Zenobia C. Joseph, Palm School Preservation

Mary Guerrero-McDonald, Expansion of Convention Center

**AGENDA**

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

- a. Meeting called to order at 3:06pm by Vice Chair, MariBen Ramsey

**2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL (Split-3:07pm)**

- a. Bill Clabby, Austin Sister Cities International
- b. Rebecca Melancon, ABIA IBIZ Districts
- c. Bill Bunch, SOS Alliance

**3. Approval of Minutes from March 14, 2017 Meeting, all voters approved**

**4. STAFF BRIEFING**

- a. Parks and Recreation Department, Kim McKnight presented Parks and Recreation Department Spending Plan for FY17 Hotel Occupancy Tax Revenue

**5. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: Parks Presentation (Split-4:11pm)**

- a. JJ Langston, Parks Preservations Presentation
- b. Joanna Wolaver, Parks Preservations Presentation

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Conference Call Discussion with the cities of El Paso (Benjamin Fyffe)/ and San Antonio(Mike Sawaya) for best practices in other cities in Texas.

**7. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL (Split-5:30pm)**

- a. Mary Guerrero-McDonald, Expansion of Convention Center
- b. Zenobia C. Joseph, Palm School Preservation

**8. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. Requested that the Task Force Members review the notes from the Post-it Notes from February 28, 2017 Meeting on initial ideas for recommendations to deliver to City Council in future report

## **9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- a. Discussed possible recommendations on items for future agendas

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

- a. Meeting Adjourned at 5:52pm

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 2 days (48 hours) before the meeting date. Please call Larry Schooler at Communication and Public Information Office Department, at 512.974.6004, [larry.schooler@austintexas.gov](mailto:larry.schooler@austintexas.gov) for additional information; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.

For more information on the Visitor Impact Task Force, please contact Felicia Ojeda at 512.404.4022, [felicia.ojeda@austintexas.gov](mailto:felicia.ojeda@austintexas.gov).