

**DOWNTOWN AUSTIN COMMUNITY COURT  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 21, 2010  
7:30AM  
STAFF BULLPEN, ROOM 1029**

Advisory Members Present:

Charles Locklin—University Area Partners  
Dennis Barkway—Austin Recovery  
Marshall Jones—DAA  
Tim Miles-- Foundation Communities  
William Kelly—University of Texas  
Lori Renteria--East Cesar Chavez N.A  
Bruce Mills

Advisory Members Absent:

none

Guest Members Present:

Kenneth Placke, ATCIC  
John Romoser, APD  
Charles Betts, DAA  
Bill Brice, DAA  
Jason English, DA office  
Darla Gay, DA office  
Mike McDonald, Asst. City Manager

Staff Members Present

Pete Valdez, Acting Court Administrator  
Eddie Fincher, CSR/Case Manager  
Luz Lozano, Analyst/Programmer  
Martha Chapa, Clerk  
Judge Michael Coffey

**I. Call meeting to order.**

• **Opening remarks and introductions.**

Charles Locklin called the meeting to order at 7:35 am.

• **Approval of minutes from last meeting February 17, 2010.**

Charles asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 17, 2010 meeting. Marshall Jones so moved; Tim Miles seconded. All approved.

**II. Presentation, discussion, and action on the following items:**

- a. Update on Committee Membership. Pete Valdez welcomed Bruce Mills, appointed by MPT Martinez to fill the last available vacancy.
- b. Report of the Review and Evaluation Subcommittee meeting. Bill Kelly reported that the basic goal comes from Councilmember Riley, who ask that information be collected on characteristics of folks who come through the door of the Court. Bill had Marshall Jones go through each item that has been considered by the subcommittee as well as items he and Marshall have come up

with as possible areas of focus, even though those items have not been presented to the subcommittee as yet. Among the areas are intake assessments, referrals, and case management. There was also a discussion of looking at characteristics of West Campus and East Austin. Marshall gave the group a briefing on the recent meeting with Luz Lozano at DACC. Charles led a discussion seeking to clarify that the purpose of the Review and Evaluation Subcommittee was still valid, and asked about whether there was a plan yet. Bill and Marshall said there was as of yet no firm plan because of the ongoing gathering of information. Charles requested that if the statement or purpose of the subcommittee changed, he would appreciate being advised of it. Charles also asked what items from the short term list of court operation changes from Judge Coffey are relevant, and what resources were needed to accomplish them. This included the lack of warrant service. Assistant City Manager Mike McDonald talked about the work being done by the City on a comprehensive plan for dealing with services for the homeless, recognizing that there is currently a lack of coordination in Austin. He said dedicated staff was needed to perform such a function.

Judge Coffey reported that the transition was in progress of moving trials that do not involve homeless defendants to Municipal Court. There was a discussion of trials at City Hall and also the number of trials that might still be retained at DACC.

No time or date was set for the next Review and Evaluation Subcommittee meeting.

- c. DACC Referrals to Project Recovery. Pete Valdez gave the updated report. Darla Gay and Lori Renteria expressed concern about the need for options for women. Other limitations of resources were discussed.
- d. Update on Court Operations. Pete updated the committee on staffing and the organization chart. He also suggested a letter of support for Project Recovery in light of the Council vote on housing funds. He reported on the meeting with FrontSteps and also that APD is no longer using DACC for arrest review.
- e. Lori gave an update on the Project Recovery holiday party, including figures for funds raised and gifts provided to clients. Charles made a motion commending Lori for her work. Bill Kelly seconded. All approved.
- f. Citizen Communication. Bill Brice called the Committee's attention to the recent action by City Council directing staff to look at amending the current sit/lie ordinance and cited past support of the Committee.

### **III. No Executive Session held.**

**IV. The next meeting was set for June 16, 2010 7:30am at the Boards and Commissions Room, City Hall.** A Special Meeting to review the budget was set for May 17 at 12:00PM, City Hall.

**V. Adjourned.**  
Charles asked for a motion to adjourn. Motioned by Marshall Jones. Seconded by Bruce Mills. Adjourned at 9:00am.