



**DOWNTOWN COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16, 2010**

The Downtown Commission convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, June 16, 2010, at 301 W. 2nd St. in Austin, Texas.

Vice Chair Linda Guerrero called the Commission Meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Downtown Commission Members in Attendance:

Beth Atherton, Bryan Cady, Linda Guerrero, Stan Haas, Robert Knight, Dustin Lanier, Dan Leary, Michael McGill, Paul Oveisi, Chris Schorre, Joel Sher, Richard Weiss, Bruce Willenzik

City Staff in Attendance:

Michael Knox, EGRSO

Note: All items on the agenda were discussed, but are listed in the order they were taken during the meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

2. UPDATE ON CASTLEMAN-BULL HOUSE

Steve Sadowsky, City of Austin Historic Preservation Officer, briefed the Commission on the status of the Castleman-Bull. The Commission asked to receive a briefing from the Convention Center Department, owner of both the Castelman-Bull and Trask Houses, on their plans for the buildings.

3. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

Charles Betts, Executive Director of the Downtown Austin Alliance, addressed the Commission on proposed additional exemptions to be included in Section E of City Code Section 9-1-14 (Sitting and Lying Down on Public Sidewalks in the Downtown Business Area Prohibited). The item will be placed on the Commission's July 21, 2010 agenda for discussion and possible action.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the May 19, 2010 meeting were approved on Commission Member Knight's motion, Commission Member Schorre's second, on an 11-0-1 vote, with Commission members Leary abstaining.

5. WALLER CREEK TUNNEL PROJECT

Gary Jackson, Public Works Department, briefed the Commission on status of the Waller Creek Tunnel Project.

6. ITEMS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS

Commission Member McGill asked about the status of the letter of appreciation for artist Magda Sayeg and Art Alliance Austin. Staff reported that, to the best of his knowledge, the letter had not yet been prepared.

Commission Member Sher asked for the Commission to discuss and take action on the proposed amendments to the Sit/Lie Ordinance before the next City Council Public Health and Human Services Committee meeting. That meeting is scheduled for July 22, 2010, so the item will be placed on the Commission's July 21, 2010 agenda.

7. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Michael Knox, Staff Liaison to the Commission and Co-Project Manager of the Downtown Austin Plan (DAP), reported on the status of the plan. Commission Member Sher asked to more information on the effects of the DAP on the developability of downtown sites, particularly smaller sites.

Michael Knox, Staff Liaison to the Commission, raised the issue of a set procedure for communicating Commission actions prior to the formal approval of minutes, which does not occur until the subsequent meeting. It was agreed that a final reading of any language would be done prior to the vote on the item, so that this language and vote could be forwarded to the appropriate recipients within a few days of the meeting.

8. POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Commission asked the following items be placed on the next agenda:

- City Code 9-1-14 (Sit/Lie Ordinance) Amendments
- Travis County Campus Planning
- Texas Facilities Commission Capitol Complex Planning
- Status of State Theater
- Update on Parking Survey
- Convention Center Plans for Castleman-Bull and Trask Houses
- Effects of the Downtown Austin Plan on the developability of downtown, particularly smaller sites (possibly in a working session)
- Formation of committees working on parking, entertainments districts and wayfinding
- Valet Parking

9. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Linda Guerrero adjourned the meeting at 6:57 p.m. without objection.