



**DOWNTOWN COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBERS 17, 2010**

The Downtown Commission convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, November 17, 2010, at 301 W. 2nd St. in Austin, Texas.

Chair Mandy Dealey called the Commission Meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

Downtown Commission Members in Attendance:

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

City Staff in Attendance:

Michael Knox, EGRSO; Lee Austin, Austin Transportation Department; Greg Guernsey, Planning and Development Review Department

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

There were no citizens wishing to speak on items not on the posted agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the October 20, 2010 meeting were approved on an 12-0-1 vote on Commission Haas' motion, Commission Member Oveisi's second, with Commission member Atherton abstaining and commission member Weiss off the dais.

4. RAINEY STREET AREA

Commission Members Knight and Cady recused themselves due to a conflict of interest for owning property in the area and left the dais. Commission member Haas led a discussion of issues affecting the Rainey Street area of downtown. Four citizens addressed the Commission on the subject.

A motion was approved to make the following recommendations to the City Council for action, with a friendly amendment, on a motion by Commission Member Haas, seconded by Commission Member Weiss, on a 12-0 vote. The friendly amendment from Commission Member Sher was to direct the City to review these recommendations and other potential actions, and return to the Commission at the December 15 with their evaluation and proposed actions to effectuate the recommendations. This was accepted by the maker of the motion and the member who seconded the motion.

The recommendations are to:

1. Remove parking from the west side of Rainey Street from Driskill to Cummings Street; replace with barriers or striping to allow pedestrians to circulate in the former

- parking areas
 - 2. Remove parking from the south side of Driskill from Red River to IH-35; replace with barriers or striping to allow pedestrians to circulate in the former parking areas
 - 3. Remove parking from the south side of Davis Street from Red River to Rainey Street; replace with barriers or striping to allow pedestrians to circulate in the former parking areas
 - 4. Remove traffic calming devices at the intersections of Rainey and Davis, Rainey and River, and Rainey and Driskill
 - 5. Install a stop sign for south-bound traffic on Red River at Davis Street
 - 6. Create residential parking permits for area residents
- 5. CONGRESS AVENUE “ENVISIONING THE AVENUE” CHARRETTE AND REPORT**
Molly Alexander, Associate Director of the Downtown Austin Alliance, presented the report.
- 6. ALLEY VACATION FOR STUBBS BAR-B-QUE, 801 RED RIVER (FILE NUMBER 8417-0701)**
The Commission received a briefing on a request for a right-of-way vacation for Stubb’s Bar-B-Que.
After the briefing, a resolution supporting the request was approved on Commission Member Lanier’s motion, Commission Member Oveisi’s second on an 11-0-1 vote. Those voting aye were Commission Members Atherton, Cady, Daniels, Haas, Lanier, Leary, McGill, Oveisi, Schorre, Sher, and Weiss. Chair Dealey abstained, and Commission members Guerrero and Knight were off the dais.
- 7. DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**
Stan Haas reported on the ongoing work of the committee.
- 8. NEW ITEMS FOR INFORMATION FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS**
- Commission Member Schorre informed the Commission that the creation of a joint committee of the Urban Transportation and Downtown Commission, to make recommendations on parking and wayfinding, will be considered by the City Council at their Nov. 18, 2010. Commission members Schorre and McGill agreed to volunteer to serve on this committee, if it is created.
- 9. ITEMS FROM STAFF**
Staff Liaison briefed the Commission on the status of the Downtown Austin Plan.
- 10. POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**
- Update on Extended Parking Hours in Downtown (December 15, Rob Spillar)
 - Public Works Department Downtown Maintenance (December 15, Howard Lazarus)
 - Rainey Street area issues (parking, pedestrian infrastructure, outdoor music, cocktail lounge uses, historic preservation, etc.)
 - Making ‘cocktail lounge’ a conditional use in CBD zoning (a recommendation of the Downtown Austin Plan).
 - Demolition Permits
 - Update on Austin Peace Officer Memorial Project
- 11. ADJOURNMENT**
Chair Mandy Dealey adjourned the meeting at 7:48 p.m. without objection.