



**DOWNTOWN COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2012**

The Downtown Commission convened in a meeting on Wednesday, September 19, 2012, at 301 W. 2nd St. in Austin, Texas.

Chair Mandy Dealey called the meeting to order at 5:43 p.m.

Downtown Commission Members in Attendance:

Mandy Dealey (Chair), Bryan Cady, Tina Fernandez, Jude Galligan, Dan Leary, Rich MacKinnon, Joel Sher, Heather Way, Bart Whatley, Bruce Willenzik

City Staff in Attendance:

Michael Knox and Fred Evins, EGRSO; Leon Barba and Dan McNabb, DPRD

1. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

There were no citizens speaking under general communications.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JULY 18 MEETING

The minutes from the July 18 meeting were approved on a 9-0 vote on Commission member Galligan's motion and Commission Cady's second, with Commission member Way off the dais.

4. CASTLEMAN-BULL HOUSE RESTORATION

The Commission received a briefing on the restoration of the Castleman-Bull House. No action was taken.

5. TEXAS PTA REZONING OF 408 WEST ELEVENTH STREET (C14-2012-0102 FROM DMU TO CBD); AND TEXAS PTA REZONING OF 410 AND 416 WEST ELEVENTH STREET (C14-2012-0103 FROM CS TO CBD)

The Commission received briefings from Jerry Reed (Development 2000), Mike Wilson (Garrett-Ihnen Civil Engineers) and Kyle Ward (Texas PTA).

After a discussion, a motion to recommend CBD zoning for C14-2012-0103 (410 and 416 W. 11th), with the height limited to that permitted by the Capitol View Corridors, was approved with a friendly amendment on Chair Dealey's motion, Commission Member Galligan's second, on a 9-0 vote, with Commission member Cady off the dais. The friendly amendment from Commission Member Way is to require compliance with Great Streets. This was accepted by the maker of the motion and Board Member Galligan, who seconded the motion.

The Commission made no recommendation on C14-2012-0102 (408 West. 11th).

6. BRIEFING ON RECOMMENDATIONS ON IMPROVEMENTS TO THE LDC AND TECHNICAL CODES TO ADDRESS SOUND MITIGATION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NEW RESIDENTIAL DWELLING UNITS AND OTHER USES WITH OVERNIGHT GUESTS, SUCH AS HOTELS, IN THE DOWNTOWN AUSTIN AREA.

The Commission received a briefing from Leon Barba and Dan McNabb.

After a discussion, a motion to recommend the Council halt the process of amending the Land Development code and move towards more complete and nuanced solutions that have the lowest impact on downtown affordability, benefit existing downtown resident, and address lower frequencies, was approved on Commission Member Galligan's motion, Commission Member Sher's second, on a 9-0 vote, with Commission member Cady off the dais.

7. REPORT FROM THE BYLAWS AND PROCEDURES WORKING GROUP

After a discussion of a) recommending to the City Council amendments to the Commission enabling ordinance and bylaws, b) adopting Commission Rules and Procedures, and c) adopting a Project Review Sheet, a motion to approve all three was approved on Commission Member Fernandez's motion, on a 9-0 vote, with Commission member Cady off the dais.

8. CREATION OF A WORKING GROUP TO STUDY A PILOT PROJECT TO CONVERT A DOWNTOWN ALLEY INTO A TEMPORARY PUBLIC SPACE

After a discussion, a motion to create the working group was approved on Commission Member Way's motion, Commission Member Willenzik's second, on a 9-0 vote, with Commission Member Cady off the dais.

9. CREATION OF A WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE OPEN SPACES AT THE SEAHOLM REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT TO ENSURE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THOSE SPACES FURTHER THE DOWNTOWN AUSTIN PLAN, THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, AND OTHER CITY PLANS.

After a discussion, no action was taken.

10. COMMISSION STRATEGIC PLANNING / WORK PLAN

This item will be scheduled after new commission members are appointed in the next month or two.

11. NEW ITEMS FOR INFORMATION FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS

- Commission member MacKinnon reported on Urban Transportation Commission work on valet parking issues and on low-speed electric vehicles for hire.
- Commission member Whatley reported on E. 5th Street streetscape improvements.
- Commission member Leary reported that the Historic Landmark Commission has approved demolition of a building at 901 Congress.

12. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff liaison Michael Knox announced that staff is working on fully developing the density bonus program and new zoning districts called for in the Downtown Austin Plan.

13. POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Election of Officers (October 17)
- 2013 Meeting Calendar (October 17)
- Bicycle Parking Code Amendments (October 17)
- Sabine Street Promenade

- Bike Share Program
- Capitol Complex Redevelopment

14. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Mandy Dealey adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m. without objection.

DRAFT