



AUSTIN MUSIC COMMISSION MINUTES

Regular Meeting – Monday, February 4, 2013, 6:30 P.M.

Austin City Hall, 301 West 2nd Street, Austin, Texas 78701

Board and Commission Room 1101

Commissioners in attendance: Brad Spies, Joah Spearman, Joe Stallone, Michael Feferman, Heather Wagner Reed

Staff in attendance: Don Pitts, Stephanie Bergara, Ashley Buchanan

A. CALL TO ORDER

Spies called the Commission meeting to order at 6:42 p.m.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from Special Called Meeting of November 5, 2012 were approved on Spearman's motion, Feferman's second, and a unanimous 5-0 vote.

C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

1. Mary Ingle/Bob Taylor – wanted to communicate that the problems are still occurring, would like to include 311 call records, will have those documents in the coming months, presented a document with 311 calls for sound complaints for Blind Pig Pub, Maggie Mae's, Shakespeare's Pub, Stubb's

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Updates from Austin Music People – Jennifer Houlihan
 - i. February 25 – State of the Austin Music Industry presentation and white paper delivery, will be held at KLRU Studio 6A
 - ii. March 4 – AMPLIFY AUSTIN, launched by I Live Here, I Give here, this will be a 24 hour campaign to raise a \$1 million for Austin area charities, AMP is participating
 - iii. April 21 – The AMP Un-Gala, bands to perform, awards to be handed out
 - iv. Presentation from Emily Marks of Scottish Right Theater, Founder of Girls Rock Camp, would like to discuss initiatives for musician safety. Spies recommends bringing this item up in musicians working group meeting and recommends staff check in with Police about any noticeable trends during the 2am time period, look in to talking to APD about what measures can be taken to ensure safety precautions are taken
2. Musicians Working Group – Phillip Gibbs
 - i. Gibbs presents updates from initial meeting, refers to Live Music Task Force findings
 - ii. Explains that Musicians wages are still a focal point for this working group, would like to look in to practices in other cities like Portland who are utilizing programs like Fair Trade Music
 - iii. Group has also been designing a questionnaire for all musicians to express their concerns
 - iv. Reaching out to Austin musicians for their input on a more organized questionnaire, working a much larger contact list

- v. Spies mentions Spearman would be a very useful asset in garnering information
 - vi. Spearman suggests utilizing social media to broaden potential exposure. Suggests micro surveys, and smaller "pod" emails, where someone can ask seven questions as opposed to getting everyone to answer every question on the survey. Spearman also suggests working to garner more press around the task of acquiring additional information.
 - vii. Pitts continues to describe the Fair Trade Music initiative in Portland, states that it would equally serve musicians and venues
 - viii. Spies notes that takeaways are for Spearman and Gibbs to discuss ideas to increase exposure
 - ix. Stallone mentions that the time frame should be reconsidered and Spearman suggests that the goal should not be to get all questions but to reach as many musicians as possible
3. Downtown Commission Working Group (Sound Ordinances)
- i. Spearman reports recent happenings around the Rainey Street Area, which led in to a discussion about potential overlay, restricting said venues permitting hours
 - ii. Downtown commission decided to establish a sound ordinance working group. Spearman's recommended action would be to have the Music Commission send a note to the Downtown Commission jointly saying that the establishment of this group would be duplicative of the work of the Music Commission
 - iii. Spies asks for clarification of the responsibilities of the Downtown Commission. Spearman states that the goal of the Downtown Commission is to execute the Downtown Austin Plan, Music does fall within that plan
 - iv. Spearman motions that a notice be sent from Chair to Chair stating that we feel that matters of the Sound Ordinance should be primarily handled by members of the Music Commission. Stallone seconds, motion passes, 5-0.

E. STAFF BRIEFINGS

1. Overview of proposed temporary events during the Spring Festival Season
 - i. Buchanan updates commission on number of temporary events currently in the application process, will send list of pending applications to Commission.
 - ii. Pitts adds that it would appear that the sprawl will likely be larger than in past years.
 - iii. Spies asks how the numbers from last year compare to past years. Pitt and Buchanan say that the Office of Special Events anticipate as many, if not more events than last year.
 - iv. Enhanced enforcement are the following: vending from the sidewalks, marketing activities, vehicles with amplified sound, recreational caravans, pamphleteering, billboards, projected, advertising and other stipulations
 - v. Spearman asks about the time frame of the APD hire, Pitts anticipates that this officer will be on the job in time for SXSW.
2. Troublemaker Studio and the Creative Content Incubator
 - i. Pitts mentioned that this item went to council and passed on a vote of 7-0, goes on to mention that it its part of the contract for Troublemaker to present updates about how Austin Music is affected by this contract.

- ii. Spearman says that this is a good case study to try and develop, good concept, can be looked at as another way that the creative industry has grown.

F. Commission Updates

1. Reed sat in on a Create Austin Meeting, a cultural planning process that will identify Austin's creative assets and challenges through 2017
2. Spies asks members of Commission to write their respective Council Member about the Venue Toolbox

G. ADJOURNMENT

The Commission adjourned at 8:02 p.m. Stallone motions, Reed seconds, unanimous 5-0 vote.

