

**DOWNTOWN AUSTIN COMMUNITY COURT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 18, 2013**

7:30AM

CITY HALL, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS ROOM

ADVISORY MEMBERS PRESENT:

T. Marshall Jones, Chair
William Kelly, Vice Chair
William Hancock
Lori Renteria
Tim Miles

ADVISORY MEMBER ABSENT:

Bruce Mills
Hugh Simonich

Guest Members Present:

Teresa Mears
Barry Lewis
Brian Spain
Cindy Finnegan
Mitchell McGovern
Adam Slosberg
Bill Brice
Danny King
Tom Woodward
Phyllis Rowe

Staff Members Present:

Peter Valdez
Susan Requejo
Peter Arellano
Michelle Myles
Joshua Paul
Jeremy Myers
Christopher Anderson
Bree Williams
Anna Gruzinov
Brooke Faulds

**I. Call meeting to order
Opening remarks and introductions**

Meeting called to order by Marshall Jones @ 7:30 am.

II. Citizen Communication

- a) Barry Lewis, a resident of downtown Austin, voiced concern that many public order offenders do not take tickets from DACC seriously and believes there may be a perception that many of the tickets issued will be dismissed with little or no consequence. Mr. Lewis also requested clarification on the dispositions from the 929 aggressive solicitation tickets issued in 2013. Mr. Lewis is requesting, specifically, how many community service hours are being completed from these offenses and, if they are not completed, what happens when these offenders appear in court subsequently.

- b) Mitchell McGovern, President of DANA, also voiced a concern about the perception that offenders have the attitude that tickets issued downtown will often times be dismissed by DACC. Mr. McGovern made a request for what percentage of cases is being dismissed and why, as well as how the top offenders are being addressed and how many of their cases are being dismissed.
- c) Adam Slosberg Executive Director Beyond Today gave a brief synopsis of his organization and services provided.

III. Presentation, discussion and possible action on the following items:

- A. Election of Officers for 2014 - Marshall Jones and William Kelly agreed to retain positions as chair and vice-chair. Vote passed without opposition.
 - a) Nomination of Hugh Simonich, by Marshall Jones, to the Downtown Commission. Vote passed without opposition.
 - b) Meeting Schedule for FY 14 was proposed and approved without opposition.
- B. Community Service Restitution presentation by Jeremy Myers. No action was taken.
- C. Emergency Solutions Grant - Housing update presented by Bree Williams and Michelle Myles. No action was taken.
- D. Homeless Individuals sharing first-hand experiences regarding the challenges and barriers associated with access to housing. Presentations by TM, PR, TW, DK. No action was taken.
- 3. Proposed housing policy-change recommendations from Advisory Committee to City Council. Committee will have discussions on this issue in upcoming weeks to determine how to proceed. No action was taken.
- E. Veterans Diversion Program discussion - Lori Renteria reports that a meeting hasn't yet occurred therefore there is nothing to report. Lori Renteria proposed to keep this item on the agenda for next meeting; proposal met no opposition from the board.

IV. Executive Session, No Executive session was held

V. Next meeting was set for January 17, 2014 at City Hall Boards and Commissions Room 1101.

VI. Meeting Adjourned @ 9:00 am.