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Land Development Code Advisory Group Meeting #23 Minutes

September 3, 2014 at 4:30 pm
One Texas Center, 5th Floor, Room 500
505 Barton Springs Rd, Austin, Texas 78701

Members in attendance: Beverly Silas, Stephen Delgado, Mandy De Mayo, Melissa Neslund, Jim Duncan, Stephen Oliver, Will Herring, Dave Sullivan.

Members Absent: Chris Bradford, Jeff Jack, Brian Reis.

Meeting Objective: Discuss PDRD Workflow project. The Advisory Group may vote on a resolution on any agenda item.

1. Approval of Minutes: No minutes to be approved.
2. Discuss PDRD Workflow and organizational assessment project: Paul Zucker of Zucker Systems Inc. met with advisory group members to discuss the project plan and work done to-date for assessing the Planning and Development Review Department for process and organizational management. Zucker explained that the process would take approximately three to four months to create a draft, preceding the editing phase which will include approximately three public meetings before a final draft will come out. The final report and implementation is expected for Spring of 2015. Zucker explained that this project will be closely coordinated with CodeNEXT. A few topics discussed as issues already identified include: technology is behind the curve; budget; performance standards; relationships with external departments; lack of communication within the department; configuration of physical spaces; lack of training; managers performing operations instead of managing.

Comments and conversation with advisory group members concentrated around: permit review time; that the development community is willing to pay fees if they receive higher quality service; difficulty of empowering staff; how permit reviewing could be improved depending on the organization of the division.

Meeting adjourned at 6:33pm.