



**DESIGN COMMISSION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2015 9:00 AM
ONE TEXAS CENTER ROOM 814 – 8TH FLOOR
505 BARTON SPRINGS RD., AUSTIN, TEXAS 78704**

Executive Committee Members

_____ Evan Taniguchi – Chair

_____ Bart Whatley – Vice Chair

_____ Heyden Walker – Secretary

_____ Kelsey Oelze, Staff Liaison, COA-PZD

_____ Jorge E. Rousselin, Executive Liaison,
COA-PZD

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER and Roll Call

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

The first five speakers signed up prior to the meeting being called to order will each be allowed a three-minute allotment to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Discussion and possible action)

- a. Discussion and possible action on the September 18, 2015 Executive Committee meeting minutes. ([Kelsey Oelze](#), COA-PZD)

3. NEW BUSINESS (Discussion and possible action)

- a. Discussion and possible action on revision of Design Commission Bylaws;

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 2 days before the meeting date. Please contact Kelsey Oelze in the Planning and Zoning Department, at Kelsey.Oelze@austintexas.gov, or (512) 974-2752, for additional information. TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.



**DESIGN COMMISSION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2015 3:00 PM
ONE TEXAS CENTER ROOM 814 – 8TH FLOOR
505 BARTON SPRINGS RD., AUSTIN, TEXAS 78704**

Meeting Minutes

Call to order by Chair Taniguchi at 3:00 PM.

Roll Call: B. Whatley not present.

- 1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: None**
- 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Discussion and possible action): None**
- 3. NEW BUSINESS (Discussion and possible action)**

- a. Discussion and possible action on revision of Design Commission Bylaws;

B. Whatley arrived at 3:05 pm.

Executive Committee discussed proposed changes to Bylaws and planned to forward the recommendations to the other Commissioners at the next Design Commission regular meeting.

No action taken by the Executive Committee.

- b. Discussion and possible action on revision and overview of Urban Design Guidelines;

Executive Committee suggested that the Urban Design Guidelines needed to be restructured to account for the context of the project and planned to forward the recommendations to the other Commissioners at the next Design Commission regular meeting.

No action taken by the Executive Committee.

- c. Discussion and possible action on creation of Infrastructure Guidelines; and

Executive Committee discussed the possibility of merging the Urban Design Guidelines with the Infrastructure Guidelines in order to define the project requirements more clearly and planned to forward the recommendations to the other Commissioners at the next Design Commission regular meeting.

No action taken by the Executive Committee

- d. Discussion and possible action on revision of Project Review Sheet.

Executive Committee discussed the possible changes to the Project Review sheet and planned to forward the recommendations to the other Commissioners at the next Design Commission regular meeting.

No action taken by the Executive Committee.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT by Consensus at 4:15 PM.

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**BYLAWS OF THE
Design Commission**

ARTICLE 1. NAME.

The name of the commission is Design Commission.

ARTICLE 2. PURPOSE AND DUTIES.

The purpose of the Commission is:

- A. The Commission shall provide advisory recommendations to the City Council as requested by the City Council to assist in developing public policy and to promote excellence in the design and development of the urban environment.
- B. The Commission shall:
 - 1.) Offer policy recommendations regarding specific issues or urban design;
 - 2.) Participate in developing design guidelines;
 - 3.) Unless otherwise directed by the City Council, for projects that require the approval of the Planning Commission or the Zoning and Platting Commission;
 - i. Review a project only after a formal request by the project sponsor or applicant; and
 - ii. Complete the review before the respective Planning or Zoning and Platting Commission takes final action;
 - 4.) Provide citizen education and outreach regarding quality urban design;
 - 5.) Provide a venue for citizen input on the design and development of the urban environment;
 - 6.) Maintain liaison relationships with City Staff and other Boards and Commissions; and
 - 7.) Perform other activities as directed by City Council.
- C. The Commission may appoint one or more of its members to serve as a liaison to a project-specific community advisory group addressing urban design and planning issues at the formal request of the project sponsor.

ARTICLE 3. MEMBERSHIP.

- (A) The Commission is composed of eleven members appointed by the City Council.
- (B) A member serves at the pleasure of the City Council.
- (C) Commission members serve for a term of four years beginning March 1st on the year of appointment.

- (D) An individual commission member may not act in an official capacity except through the action of the commission.
- (E) A commission member who is absent for three consecutive regular meetings or one-third of all regular meetings in a “rolling” twelve month timeframe automatically vacates the member’s position subject to the holdover provisions in Section 2-1-27 of the City Code. This does not apply to an absence due to illness or injury of the commission member, an illness or injury of a commission member’s immediate family member, active military service, or the birth or adoption of the commission member’s child for 90 days after the event. The commission member must notify the Staff Liaison of the reason for the absence no later than the date of the next regular meeting of the commission. Failure to notify the liaison before the next regular meeting of the commission will result in an unexcused absence.
- (F) At each meeting, each commission member shall sign an attendance sheet which indicates that the member does not have a conflict of interest with any item on that agenda, or identifies each agenda item on which the member has a conflict of interest. Failure to sign the sheet results in the member being counted as absent and his/her votes are not counted.
- (G) A member who seeks to resign from the commission shall submit a written resignation to the chair of the commission, the Staff Liaison, or the City Clerk’s office. If possible, the resignation should allow for a thirty day notice so the City Council can appoint a replacement.

ARTICLE 4. OFFICERS.

- (A) The officers of the Commission shall consist of a Chair and a Vice-Chair.
- (B) Officers shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the Commission at the first regular meeting after April 1st. In the event a current officer becomes ineligible to serve as an officer, the commission may hold an emergency election as needed.
- (C) The term of office shall be one year, beginning May 1st and ending April 30th. An officer may continue to serve until a successor is elected. A person may not serve as an officer in a designated position of a commission for more than four consecutive one-year terms. A person who has served as an officer in a designated position of a commission for four consecutive terms is not eligible for re-election to that designated office until the expiration of two years after the last date of the person’s service in that office. The commission may override the term limit provision for an officer by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the authorized commission members.
- (D) A member may not hold more than one office at a time.

ARTICLE 5. DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

- (A) The Chair shall preside at commission meetings, appoint all committees, represent the board at ceremonial functions and approve each final meeting agenda.
- (B) In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair shall perform all duties of the Chair.

ARTICLE 6. AGENDAS.

- (A) Two or more commission members may place an item on the agenda by oral or written request to the Staff Liaison at least five days before the meeting. After first consulting with and receiving input from the Staff Liaison, the chair shall approve each final meeting agenda.
- (B) The commission liaison shall submit the meeting agenda through the online agenda posting system for each meeting not less than 72 hours before the meeting.
- (C) Posting of the agenda must comply with Texas Government Code Chapter 551 (Texas Open Meetings Act).

ARTICLE 7. MEETINGS.

- (A) The commission meetings shall comply with Texas Government Code Chapter 551 (Texas Open Meetings Act).
- (B) Commission meetings shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order.
- (C) The commission may not conduct a closed meeting without the approval of the City Attorney.
- (D) The commission shall meet monthly. In November of each year, the commission shall adopt a schedule of the meetings for the upcoming year, including makeup meeting dates for the holidays and cancelled meetings.
- (E) The Chair may call a special meeting, and the Chair shall call a special meeting if requested by three or more members. The call shall state the purpose of the meeting. A commission may not call a meeting in addition to its regular scheduled meetings as identified in its adopted meeting schedule, more often than once a quarter, unless the meeting is required to comply with a statutory deadline or a deadline established by Council.

- (F) Six members constitute a quorum.
- (G) If a quorum for a meeting does not convene within one-half hour of the posted time for the meeting, then the meeting may not be held.
- (H) To be effective, a commission action must be adopted by an affirmative vote of the number of members necessary to provide a quorum.
- (I) The Chair has the same voting privilege as any other member.
- (J) The commission shall allow citizens to address the commission on agenda items and during a period of time set aside for citizen communications. The Chair may limit a speaker to three minutes.
- (K) The Staff Liaison shall prepare the commission minutes. The minutes of each commission meeting must include the vote of each member on each item before the commission and indicate whether a member is absent or failed to vote on an item.
- (L) The City Clerk shall retain agendas, approved minutes, internal review reports and bylaws. The Planning and Zoning Department shall retain all other commission documents. The documents are public records under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 552 (Texas Public Information Act).
- (M) The Chair shall adjourn a meeting not later than 10 p.m., unless the commission votes to continue the meeting.
- (N) Each person and commission member attending a commission meeting should observe decorum pursuant to Section 2-1-48 of the City Code.
- (O) A member of the public may not address a commission at a meeting on an item posted as a briefing.

ARTICLE 8. COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS.

COMMITTEES

- (A) The Design Commission shall have the following committees:

1. Executive Committee – Consists of the officers of the commission. The purpose of the Executive Committee is to assist the Commission in creating annual reports, creation of monographs, interaction with Council members, and providing outreach to the community on Urban Design issues.
- (B) Each committee must be established by an affirmative vote of the board. A committee cannot meet until its creation is approved by the Council Audit and Finance Committee. Each committee shall consist of at least three commission members appointed by the chair. A staff member shall be assigned to each committee by the director of the Planning and Zoning Department.
- (C) The commission Chair shall appoint a board member as the committee chair, with the member's consent.
- (D) A majority of the total number of appointed committee members constitutes a quorum.
- (E) Each committee shall meet on a regularly scheduled basis at least quarterly.
- (F) Each committee shall make an annual report to the commission at the January commission meeting.
- (G) Committee meetings must be posted in accordance with Texas Government Code Chapter 551 (Texas Open Meetings Act).
- (H) At each committee meeting, a committee member shall sign in on a sheet provided and shall indicate that the member has no conflict of interest with any item on the committee meeting agenda, or identify each agenda item on which the member has a conflict of interest.

WORKING GROUPS

- (A) The commission can determine the size of a working group but the number of commission members serving on the working group must be less than a quorum of the commission.
- (B) A working group may designate a chair, with the member's consent, but is not required to do so.
- (C) Quorum requirements do not apply to working groups.

- (D) Staff support will not be provided for working groups.
- (E) Working groups are not required to post their meetings in accordance with the Texas Government Code Chapter 551 (Texas Open Meetings Act).

ARTICLE 9. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY.

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the commission in all cases to which they are applicable, except when inconsistent with these bylaws or with special rules of procedure which the commission or City Council may adopt.

ARTICLE 10. AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS.

A bylaw amendment is not effective unless approved by the Council Audit and Finance Committee.

The bylaws were approved by the Design Commission at the meeting held on _____.

Kelsey Oelze
Staff Liaison
Planning and Zoning Department

Administrative Senior
Title

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2
3 **TEMPLATE FOR STANDARD CITY BOARD BYLAWS**
4

5
6 **BYLAWS OF THE**
7

8 _____
9 *(Board Name)*
10

11 **ARTICLE 1. NAME.**
12

13 The name of the board is _____ *(board name as it appears in the*
14 *Municipal Code).*
15

16 **ARTICLE 2. PURPOSE AND DUTIES.**
17

18 The purpose of the board is _____. *(Insert the information directly from the*
19 *City Code.)*
20

21 **ARTICLE 3. MEMBERSHIP.**
22

- 23 (A) The board is composed of eleven members appointed by the city council.
24
25 (B) A member serves at the pleasure of the city council.
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27 (C) Board members serve for a term of four years beginning March 1st on the year of appointment.
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29 (D) An individual board member may not act in an official capacity except through the action of the
30 board.
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32 (E) A board member who is absent for three consecutive regular meetings or one-third of all regular
33 meetings in a “rolling” twelve month timeframe automatically vacates the member’s position
34 subject to the holdover provisions in Section 2-1-27 of the City Code. This does not apply to an
35 absence due to illness or injury of the board member, an illness or injury of a board member’s
36 immediate family member, active military service, or the birth or adoption of the board member’s
37 child for 90 days after the event. The board member must notify the staff liaison of the reason for
38 the absence not later than the date of the next regular meeting of the board. Failure to notify the
39 liaison before the next regular meeting of the board will result in an unexcused absence.
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41 (F) At each meeting, each board member shall sign an attendance sheet which indicates that the member
42 does not have a conflict of interest with any item on that agenda, or identifies each agenda item on
43 which the member has a conflict of interest. Failure to sign the sheet results in the member being
44 counted as absent and his/her votes are not counted.
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46 (G) A member who seeks to resign from the board shall submit a written resignation to the chair of the
47 board, the staff liaison, or the city clerk’s office. If possible, the resignation should allow for a
48 thirty day notice so the city council can appoint a replacement.

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ARTICLE 4. OFFICERS.

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- 24 (B) Officers shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the board at the first regular meeting after
- 25 April 1st. In the event a current officer becomes ineligible to serve as an officer, the board may hold
- 26 an emergency election as needed.
- 27 (C) The term of office shall be one year, beginning May 1st and ending April 30th. An officer may
- 28 continue to serve until a successor is elected. A person may not serve as an officer in a designated
- 29 position of a board for more than four consecutive one-year terms. A person who has served as an
- 30 officer in a designated position of a board for four consecutive terms is not eligible for re-election
- 31 to that designated office until the expiration of two years after the last date of the person's service in
- 32 that office. The board may override the term limit provision for an officer by an affirmative vote of
- 33 two-thirds of the authorized board members.
- 34 (D) A member may not hold more than one office at a time.

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ARTICLE 5. DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

- 49 (A) The chair shall preside at board meetings, appoint all committees, represent the board at ceremonial
- 50 functions and approve each final meeting agenda.
- 51 (B) In the absence of the chair, the vice-chair shall perform all duties of the chair.

ARTICLE 6. AGENDAS.

- 52 (A) Two or more board members may place an item on the agenda by oral or written request to the staff
- 53 liaison at least five days before the meeting. After first consulting with and receiving input from
- 54 the staff liaison, the chair shall approve each final meeting agenda.
- 55 (B) The board liaison shall submit the meeting agenda through the online agenda posting system for
- 56 each meeting not less than 72 hours before the meeting.
- 57 (C) Posting of the agenda must comply with Texas Government Code Chapter 551 (Texas Open
- 58 Meetings Act).

ARTICLE 7. MEETINGS.

- 59 (A) The board meetings shall comply with Texas Government Code Chapter 551 (Texas Open
- 60 Meetings Act).
- 61 (B) Board meetings shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order.

- (C) The board may not conduct a closed meeting without the approval of the city attorney.
- (D) The board shall meet (select one of the following: monthly, quarterly, or when the board is legally required to meet in order to comply with a legal deadline.) In November of each year, the board shall adopt a schedule of the meetings for the upcoming year, including makeup meeting dates for the holidays and cancelled meetings.
- (E) The chair may call a special meeting, and the chair shall call a special meeting if requested by three or more members. The call shall state the purpose of the meeting. A board may not call a meeting in addition to its regular scheduled meetings as identified in its adopted meeting schedule, more often than once a quarter, unless the meeting is required to comply with a statutory deadline or a deadline established by Council.
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- (L) The city clerk shall retain agendas, approved minutes, internal review reports and bylaws. The _____ *(liaison's department name)* shall retain all other board documents. The documents are public records under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 552 (Texas Public Information Act).
- (M) The chair shall adjourn a meeting not later than 10 p.m., unless the board votes to continue the meeting.
- (N) Each person and board member attending a board meeting should observe decorum pursuant to Section 2-1-48 of the City Code.
- (O) A member of the public may not address a board at a meeting on an item posted as a briefing.

ARTICLE 8. COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS.

COMMITTEES

- (A) The _____ *(Name of the board)* shall have the following committees:
(Name and describe the duties of each Committee.

If the board does not have any committees, use the following language):

- (A) The _____ (*Name of the board*) will have no committees.
- (B) Each committee must be established by an affirmative vote of the board. A committee cannot meet until its creation is approved by the Council Audit and Finance Committee. Each committee shall consist of at least three board members appointed by the chair. A staff member shall be assigned to each committee by the director of the _____ (*department name*).
- (C) The board chair shall appoint a board member as the committee chair, with the member's consent.
- (D) A majority of the total number of appointed committee members constitutes a quorum.
- (E) Each committee shall meet on a regularly scheduled basis at least quarterly.
- (F) Each committee shall make an annual report to the board at the January board meeting.
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ARTICLE 10. AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS.

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2 A bylaw amendment is not effective unless approved by the Council Audit and Finance Committee.
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4
5 The bylaws were approved by the _____ *(insert - board name)* at their
6 meeting held on _____ *(insert – month date, year)*.
7

8
9
10 _____
11 *(Signature of Executive or Staff Liaison)*

(Insert – Title -- Executive or Staff Liaison)