



**DACC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
Friday, November 20th, 2015**

The Downtown Austin Community Court (DACC) Advisory Committee convened in a regular meeting on Friday, November 20th, 2015, in Austin, Texas.

Sara Clark called the meeting to order at 7:50 a.m.

Committee Members in Attendance: Sara Clark (Chair), Elizabeth Brenner (Vice Chair), Brittain Ayres, Darilynn Cardona-Beiler, Tanisa Bernard, Catherine Miller

Staff in Attendance: Pete Valdez, Susan Requejo, Michele Myles, Catherine Straub, Liana Bowers, Joshua Smith, Joy Berry, Dahlia Martinez and Jeremy Myers

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the meeting of September 18th, 2015 were approved on a motion by Committee Member Sara Clark and seconded by Committee Member Elizabeth Brenner. The motion passed on a 6-0 vote.

2. OLD BUSINESS (None)

a. A discussion was held regarding amendments to the by-laws. A motion was made to adopt uni-lateral changes by Board Member Sara Clark and seconded Board Member Tanisa Bernard. The motion passed on a 6-0 vote.

b. A discussion was held regarding future meeting times and meeting locations. A motion was made to change the meeting time to 7:45am and to continue meeting at City Hall in Boards and Commission by Board Member Sara Clark and seconded Board Member Tanisa Bernard. The motion passed on a 6-0 vote.

3. NEW BUSINESS (See attachment)

a. An overview of the Case Management program was provided by Pete Valdez and the case managers of the Downtown Austin Community Court. The presentation included information in regards to Intensive Case Management and the ESG Rapid Rehousing Program. Community Service Restitution (CSR) program of Community Court will present on outline of their program which will include the Edgar Fincher Program Garden.

b. Homeless/formerly homeless individuals shared first- hand experiences regarding challenges and barriers associated with access to housing. No action was taken on this item.

4. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

- a.** Sara Worthington – Austin Reentry Roundtable

5. STAFF BRIEFINGS

a. KVUE news story of October 7th, information reported was inaccurate. Information was not provided by Downtown Austin Community Court. The reporter of the news story was provided with a more detailed report of dispositions in regards to the No Sit/Lie ordinance. The main point of the news story that needed to be addressed was that of only 21 people had reported to the court to answer to their summons. The reporter also focused on lack of fine collection and was informed by the director that this court is not about collecting fines but as a way of engaging these defendants into our services because the majority of the people who come into contact with the Community Court are indigent and homeless. Judge Coffey discussed layout credit and how it is applied within the Community Court. Defendants are remanded to jail after giving them the opportunity to resolve their cases.

- b.** Downtown Austin Community Court Facilities (postponed)

6. ADJOURN

Chair Sara Clark adjourned the meeting at 9 a.m. without objection.