



**DOWNTOWN COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 2016**

The Downtown Commission convened in a meeting on Wednesday, July 20, 2016 at 301 W. 2nd Street.

Downtown Commissioners in Attendance:

Jennifer Bristol, Samuel Franco, Johnathan Gins, David Gomez, Alesha Larkins, Christopher Lehman, Sunshine Mathon, Timothy Moore, Jordan Mullins, Joel Sher, Bruce Willenzik

Downtown Commissioners Not in Attendance:

Marshall Escamilla, Mary Jo Galindo, Wendy Dunnam Tita

City Staff in Attendance:

Michael Knox, Mona Sanchez, Nicole Klepadlo, Anahi Bendeck, Donald Jackson, Christine Maguire and Alex Lopez, Economic Development Department; Jorge Rousselin, Planning and Zoning Department

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

There were no citizens signed up to speak on general communication.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MAY 18, 2016 MEETING

The minutes from the June 15, 2016 meeting were approved on Commissioner Bristol's motion and Vice Chair Mathon's second, on a 6-0 vote.

4. CodeNEXT AND THE DOWNTOWN AUSTIN PLAN

Jorge Rousselin with the Planning and Zoning Department briefed the Commission on CodeNEXT and the Downtown Austin Plan.

5. RED RIVER CULTURAL DISTRICT

Nicole Klepadlo with the Economic Development Department briefed the Commission on the Red River Cultural District.

6. ANNUAL INTERNAL REVIEW

Michael Knox with the Economic Development Department provided a draft of the Annual Internal Review process and deadline.

The Commission identified four items as specific goals and objectives for the coming year:

- Monitoring and advocating for the integration of the Downtown Austin Plan and CodeNEXT
- Improving transportation to and within downtown, including planning for high capacity transit serving downtown
- Supporting the provision of public restrooms in downtown
- Maintaining and enhancing the cultural attractiveness of downtown, including events

7. WORKING GROUPS

- The working group developing a recommendation regarding the modifying boundaries of downtown had not met and did not have a report.
- The Commission created a working group to draft a list of issues for the City Council to request Downtown Commission review. Commissioner's Bristol, Gins, Lehman and Chair Sher volunteered to serve on the working group.

8. ITEMS OF INFORMATION FROM COMMISSIONERS

- Commissioner Johnathan Gins reported that the UTC received reports on personal rapid transit, urban trail projects and mobility bonds
- Commissioner Alesha Larkins reported that the Parks Board created a working group to review proposed revisions to the guidelines for the adoption of park land, received an update on Waterloo Park from the Waller Creek Conservancy and received an update on Seaholm Intake structure RFP issuance
- Commissioner Bruce Willenzik reported that the Arts Commission is continuing to review and offer recommendations on the Mayor's Omnibus Resolution
- David Gomez reported that the Design Commission continues to work on updating their infrastructure guidelines
- Jennifer Bristol reported on the implementation of the Cities Connecting Children to Nature program

9. ITEMS FROM STAFF

- Michael Knox, Economic Development Department, reported that the Commission still has three position vacancies and will be contacting Council offices.

10. POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Waller Creek Conservancy's Waller Creek Restoration and Rehabilitation Plan
- Capitol Complex Master Plan

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.