



**DACC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
Friday, September 16th, 2016**

The Downtown Austin Community Court (DACC) Advisory Committee convened in a regular meeting on Friday, September 16th, 2016, in Austin, Texas.

Sara Clark called the meeting to order at 7:45 a.m.

Committee Members in Attendance: Sara Clark (Chair), Brittain Ayres, Andrew Cates, Lea Downey-Gallatin, Catherine Miller, Lori Cervenak-Renteria

Staff in Attendance: Michael Coffey, Pete Valdez, Susan Requejo, Jennifer Sowinski, Jeremy Myers, Dahlia Martinez, Martha Chapa, Michele Myles, Joy Berry, Caitlin Purcell, Robert Hanley, Sean Martin

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the meeting of July 15th, 2016 and July 29th, 2106 were approved on a motion by Committee Member Catherine Miller and seconded by Committee Member Sara Clark. The motion passed on a 6-0 vote.

2. CITIZEN/CLIENT TESTIMONIALS

A. Homeless/formerly homeless individuals shared first- hand experiences regarding challenges and barriers associated with access to housing. A brief update of the Emergency Solutions Grant was provided to the board. The update included lack of affordable units and financial assistance.

3. OLD BUSINESS

A. Bill Brice with the Downtown Austin Alliance provided the following update regarding HOST. Funding was approved to continue the HOST pilot initiative through the next fiscal year. The program would continue in its current form and current geographical area. Broad acceptance and appreciation was expressed by City Council and City Management for this initiative, as a new and innovative approach to addressing issues, specifically mental health, substance abuse and homelessness. Bill Brice suggested that Kerry O'Connor who is the Chief Innovation Officer be invited to a future meeting to provide an informative overview of the HOST program.

- B.** Pete Valdez informed the committee members that the initial budget request was for \$500,000, City Manager approved \$250,000, which was approved by the City Council.
- C.** Downtown Austin Community Court facilities – No update available. Committee Member Sara Clark encourages those who have not toured the Downtown Austin Community Court to do so.
- D.** Committee Member Sara Clark has recommended that the draft resolution regarding the board name change be put on hold until we can find out what the actual process is and revisit at the next meeting.
- E.** Judge Michael Coffey contacted both Presiding Judge Sherry Statman and Assistant City Manager Rey Arellano about resolution 20160811-037, and was informed that they have both met and begun the planning process to do create surveys, forms and to begin the gathering of information that the City Council has requested. The Municipal Court Clerk has begun the process to develop the statistics that City Council has asked for. The City Management is going to be the body that will be organizing and coordinating the process and Assistant City Manager Rey Arellano will be the single point of contact. A motion was made by Committee Member Lori Cervenak-Renteria and seconded by Committee Member Catherine Miller. The motion states that the Chair, Sara Clark send a recommendation to Assistant City Manager Rey Arellano, asking that a client of the Downtown Austin Community Court, an Advisory Committee Member and a member of Safehorns be included as part of the stakeholder group as stated in resolution 20160811-037.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- A.** Committee Member Lori Cervenak-Renteria has suggested that the Community Court brochure be updated. Pete Valdez would like to find someone who can provide the graphics for the brochure and the newsletter that will be sent out quarterly. A suggestion was made that social media might be a good way to inform the public about Community Court. Pete Valdez will try to coordinate with Public Information Office to have someone at our next advisory meeting.
- B.** Rental assistance grants opportunity – No update available.

5. STAFF BRIEFINGS

6. ADJOURN

Chair Sara Clark adjourned the meeting at 9:12 a.m. without objection.