



Visitor Impact Task Force
February 28, 2017
3:00pm
Austin Convention Center
Meeting Room 5abc
500 E. Cesar Chavez
Austin, TX 78701

MINUTES

In Attendance:

Gavin Garcia - Music Industry Representative
Catlin Whittington - Music Industry Representative
Lulu Flores - Arts Community Representative
MariBen Ramsey - Arts Community Representative
James Russell - Special Events Industry Representative
Tom Noonan - Austin Convention & Visitors Bureau Representative
Bill Worsham - Public Safety Community Representative
Alyson McGee - Preservation Community Representative
Dan Keshet - Parks Community Representative
Mark Tester - Convention Center Representative
Dewitt Peart - Downtown Commission Representative
Ashwin Ghatalia - Tourism Workforce Representative
Jonathan Mahone - Community Member Representative
Pam Thompson - Environmental Community Representative
Gordon Derr - Transportation Department Representative (ex-officio)

Absent:

Julie Niehoff - Special Events Industry Representative
Shelly Schadegg - Hotel Industry Representative
Stephen Sternschein - Tourism Workforce Representative
Skeeter Miller - Restaurant Industry Representative
Richard Mendoza - Public Works Department Representative (ex-officio)

Staff and Others In Attendance:

Mark Washington, ACM
Larry Schooler, CPIO, Facilitator
Felicia Ojeda, Austin Convention Center Department
Chad Crager, Public Works (stand in for Richard Mendoza)
Jake Rosenberg, Austin Sister Cities International
Mike Cannatti, "Think Big"
Bill Bunch, SOS Alliance
Girard Kinney, Citizen
Brendan Wittstuck, Citizen

AGENDA

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

- a. Meeting called to order at 3:04pm by Chair, James Russell

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

- a. Jake Rosenberg, Austin Sister Cities International
- b. Mike Cannatti, “Think Big”
- c. Bill Bunch, Save our Springs Alliance
- d. Girard Kinney, Citizen
- e. Brendan Wittstuck, Citizen

3. Approval of Minutes from February 14, 2017 Meeting, all voters approved

4. STAFF BRIEFING

- a. Panel Discussion with City departments on Impacts of Tourism on City of Austin Departments – Austin Transportation Division (Gordon Derr) and Austin Resource Recovery (Richard McHale)

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Each Task Force members discussed initial ideas on recommendations to deliver to City Council in future report.
- b. Discussed and voted not to create sub-committees within the Task Force members for recommendations to City Council about how to best utilize Hotel Occupancy Taxes.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Discussed possible recommendations on items for future agendas

7. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Meeting Adjourned at 5:45pm

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For more information on the Visitor Impact Task Force, please contact Felicia Ojeda at 512.404.4022, felicia.ojeda@austintexas.gov.