



Visitor Impact Task Force
April 11, 2017
3:00pm
Austin Convention Center
Meeting Room 5abc
500 E. Cesar Chavez
Austin, TX 78701

MINUTES

In Attendance:

Gavin Garcia - Music Industry Representative
Lulu Flores - Arts Community Representative
MariBen Ramsey - Arts Community Representative
James Russell - Special Events Industry Representative
Julie Niehoff - Special Events Industry Representative
Tom Noonan - Austin Convention & Visitors Bureau Representative
Shelly Schadegg - Hotel Industry 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
Skeeter Miller - Restaurant Industry Representative
Richard Mendoza - Public Works Department Representative (ex-officio)

Absent:

Catlin Whittington - Music Industry Representative
Bill Worsham - Public Safety Community Representative
Stephen Sternschein - Tourism Workforce Representative
Larry Schooler, CPIO, Facilitator

Staff and Others In Attendance:

Mark Washington, ACM
Carla Steffen, Austin Convention Center Department
Diane Thomas, City of Austin, Controllers Office
Felicia Ojeda, Austin Convention Center Department
Bill Manno, City of Austin, Austin Center for Events
Gary Keller, All ATX
Danny Gillespie, intricate
Reenie Collins, Donated time to Gary Keller
Heather Alden, Donated time to Gary Keller
Kurt Wheeler, Donated time to Gary Keller

Staff and Others In Attendance: (con't)

Sharon Blythe, Cemeteries
Rodney Siebels, Austin Convention Center Expansion
Charles Betts, Austin History Center
Rosgaldo Gomez, Crossroads Events
Bill Bunch, Save Our Springs Alliance
Mike Mardecai, Elephant Room, BBA
Clifford Gillard, East Austin Black Interest
George Cofer, Historic/ Parks/ Preservation
Scott Joslovz, Texas Hotel & Lodging Association
Rebecca Melancon, ABIA IBIZ Districts – Local Businesses
Steve Berco, Local Businesses
Lorri Turner, Local Businesses
Leonard Davila, Musician/ Promoter
John Bernardoni
Peter Helf, Donated time to John Bernardoni
Dr. John Butler

AGENDA

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

- a. Meeting called to order at 3:03pm by Chair James Russell

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL (Split-3:04pm)

- a. Gary Keller- The Austin Music Plan
- b. Sharon Blythe, PARs comment on cemeteries
- c. National Instruments, Rodney Siebels, Austin Convention Center Expansion
- d. Charles Betts- Chair Austin History Center Association
- e. George Cofer- Historic/ Parks/ Preservation

3. Approval of Minutes from March 28, 2017 Meeting, all voters approved minus Chair James Russell (due to absence of March 28, 2017 meeting) and the absence of Task Force Members, Catlin Whittington, Bill Worsham, and Stephen Sternschein.

4. STAFF BRIEFING (Split-3:35pm)

- a. Assistant City Manager, Mark Washington, discussed the concerns expressed to the Task Force in relation to the scope of the task force, process in which the task force has undertaken matters and information that has been shared with the Task Force by City staff.

5. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: Task Force Concerns Presentation (Split-4:00pm)

- a. Bill Bunch, Save Our Alliance

6. STAFF BRIEFING (Split-4:30pm)

- b. City of Austin- Controller Office, Diana Thomas, presented Financial Reporting in Government and Austin Convention Center Department, Carla Steffen presented Cash, Financial Position, Capital Project Financing, and Debt

7. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: Austin Convention Center Department Presentation (Split-5:48pm)

- a. Bill Bunch, Save Our Alliance, Finance response
- b. Rosgaldo Gomez, Crossroads Events, Mexican American Cultural
- c. Mike Mardecai - Elephant Room, BBA
- d. Clifford Gillard- East Austin Black Interest
- e. Rebecca Melancon – ABIA
- f. Steve Berco, Book People
- g. Lorri Turner, Hat BOX- ABIA
- h. Leonard Davila, Musician/ Promoter
- i. John Bernardoni, Historic Paramount Theatre Restoration Project
- j. Dr. John Butler

8. STAFF BRIEFING (Split-6:30pm)

- b. Austin Convention Center Department, Carla Steffen presented Cash, Financial Position, Capital Project Financing, and Debt

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Discussed possible recommendations on items for future agendas

10. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Meeting Adjourned at 6:50pm

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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.