



Tourism Commission
December 14, 2020
10 am
Via Video Conferencing

MINUTES

In Attendance:

Alta Alexander
Rachel Magee
Edward Bailey
Scott Joslove
Bill Bunch
John Riedie
Brian Rodgers
Lois Rodriguez
Mike Cannatti
Catlin Whittington

Staff and Other In Attendance:

Felicia Ojeda, Austin Convention Center Department, Staff liaison
Katy Zamesnik, Austin, Convention Center Department, Acting Chief Administrative Officer
Tom Noonan, Visit Austin, President and CEO
Cindy Lo, Red Velvet
Bill Carter, Carter Transportation
Elizabeth Alderson, Austin Detours
Dennis Randolph, Strong Productions

AGENDA

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

- a. Meeting called to order at 10:07 am by Chair, Catlin Whittington

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS:

- a. No Citizen Communications

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Commissioner Rodriguez motioned to approve the August 10, 2020 minutes. Commissioner Bailey 2nd the motion.
- b. Commissioners Whittington, Magee, Bailey, Riedie, Rodriguez, Alexander approved. Commissioners Rodgers and Bunch abstained due to absence of meeting.

4. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Chair Whittington lead the discussion on future commissions meetings.
 - i. Commissioners agreed to continue current meeting occurrences.
 - ii. 2nd Mondays of each month in the late afternoon.
- b. Tom Noonan, President and CEO from Visit Austin, presented the Update on Travel and Tourism.
 - i. Video Message for Planning of the Recovery from Adam Sack, President of Tourism Economics
 - ii. Cindy Lo, CEO and Owner of Red Velvet and Chair of the Visit Austin Board
 - iii. Dennis Randolph, Owner and President of Strong Productions
 - iv. Elizabeth Alderson, Owner of Austin Detours
 - v. Billy Carter, President and General Manager of Carter Transportation
- c. Austin Convention Center Department, Acting Chief Administrative Officer Katy Zemesnik briefs the board regarding Item 46 that was passed from City Council Meeting, December 3, 2020, directing the City Manager to establish an Iconic Venue Fund and the financial impact of that resolution on the Convention Center

5. NEW BUSINESS

The Commission discussed the following agenda item:

- a. Commissioner Cannatti - D 10 discusses recommendations from the Parks and Environment Working Group.
 - i. Commissioner Joslove request to motion postpone adoption the recommendation. Commissioner Rodriguez 2nd the motion to postpone to the next meeting.
 - ii. Commissioners Bailey, Joslove, Rodriguez, Magee and Cannatti to postpone adoption
 - iii. Commissioners Bunch, Rodgers, and Riedie opposed postponing the adoption
- b. Briefing and discussion regarding the formation of a Tourism Public Improvement District
 - i. Tabled for next meeting due to time and presenters

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Commission may discuss and identify future agenda items, topics, or presentations

- a. Revisit the Recommendations from the Parks and Environment Working Groups
- b. Revisit the briefing and discussion regarding the formation of a Tourism Public Improvement District (TPID) from Visit Austin

7. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Chair Whittington motioned to adjourn the meeting at 12:01 pm.
Commissioner Magee second the motion.

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For more information on the Tourism Commission, please contact Felicia Ojeda at 512.404.4022, felicia.ojeda@austintexas.gov.