



Tourism Commission
May 18, 2022 - 3 pm
Hybrid via Video Conferencing and
City Hall Chambers Room 1001
301 W. Second St.
Austin, Texas 78701

MINUTES

In Attendance:

Greg Chanon
Ed Bailey
Rachel Magee
Bill Bunch
Ken Smith
John Riedie
Mike Cannatti

Absence:

Alta Alexander
Lois Rodriguez

Staff and Other In Attendance:

Felicia Ojeda, Austin Convention Center Department, Staff liaison
Trisha Tatro, Austin Convention Center Department, Director
Katy Zamesnik, Austin Convention Center Department, Chief Administrative Officer

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

- a. Meeting called to order at 3:10 pm by Chair, Rachel Magee

2. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS:

- a. No Public Communications

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Approval of the March 21, 2022, minutes.
 - i. Vice Chair Smith moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Chanon seconded the motion.
 - ii. Commissioner Cannatti request a spell check for Joy Casnovsky name.
 - iii. March minutes received unanimous approval votes by commissioners.

4. NEW BUSINESS

The Commission discussed the following agenda item:

- a.** Report from the Austin Convention Center Department, Director Trisha Tatro and Chief Administrative Officer Katy Zamesnik
 - i. Commissioner Chanon asked clarification from presentation
 - ii. Commissioner Bunch requested updated financial analysis on this expansion update presentation, requested a summarize of the financial model, requested operational cost report during construction phase, share the RFQ of the architectural design and services
 - iii. Commissioner Bailey requested clarification of the different phases of demolition, number of hotels to during the construction- expansion phase, and Commissioner Smith requested number of rooms with the new hotel growth
 - iv. Commissioner Cannatti asked about expansion concepts and revenue
 - v. Chair Magee requested convention center business throughout the city to minimize event jobs, construction- expansion concept compared to other city convention centers

5. OLD BUSINESS

The Commission discussed the following agenda item:

- a.** Election of the Vice Chair position
 - i. Commissioner Riedie motioned to nominate Commissioner Smith as Vice Chair. Commissioner Chanon seconded the motion.
 - ii. All commissioner (Chair Magee, Commissioners Cannatti, Bailey, Chanon, Smith, Riedie, and Bunch) voted with approval of Commissioner Smith's nomination as the newly appointed Vice Chair.

6. NEW BUSINESS

The Commission discussed the following agenda item:

- b.** Report from the Parks and Environment Working Group on any updates or make new appointments
 - i. Commissioner Cannatti updated the board on a new appointed member of the working group.
 - a. George Cofer, Hill Country Conservancy
- c.** Report from the TPID working group on any updates or make new appointments
 - i. Commissioner Riedie had no new announcements
- d.** Discuss Bylaws of the Tourism Commission Board (scope of work)
 - i. Commissioner Bailey - Request Visit Austin, Sports Commission to receive a better understanding of the tourism attraction of sports within the city or other nearby cities
 - ii. Explore other revenue streams to help foster the HOT for the cultural arts groups

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

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

- a.** Commissioner Bunch, request Professor Sanders return to present in future meetings
- b.** Commissioner Riedie, request briefing by AHLA on the impacts of hotels while the convention center closes for expansion project
- c.** Commissioner Riedie, request a Short-term Rentals and Airbnb representative in the Austin area to present about regulations on registration and in exchange increase HOT
- d.** Commissioner Bunch request the additional information from the Austin Convention Center Department when available within the next meetings
- e.** Commissioner Cannatti request public communication from neighborhood communities regarding the Short-Term Rental
- f.** Chair Magee request a presentation on how the hospitality workers and those that work in live events, including art organizations are impacted by the current economic state

8. ADJOURNMENT

- a.** Vice Chair Magee adjourn the meeting at 4:40 pm.

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