

DESIGN COMMISSION SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2023

The Design Commission convened in a Special Called meeting on Thursday, April 13, 2023, at the Permitting and Development Center, Room 1405, located at 6310 Wilhelmina Delco in Austin, Texas.

Chair Weaver called the Design Commission meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

## **Board Members/Commissioners in Attendance:**

Jen Weaver, Chair Josue Meiners, Vice Chair Ben Anstead David Carroll Ben Luckens Marissa McKinney Jon Salinas

Commissioner Salinas joined the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Evan Taniguchi

Commissioner Taniguchi joined the meeting at 6:12 p.m.

## **PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

None.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the minutes of the Design Commission regular meeting on March 27, 2023.

The minutes from the meeting of 03/27/2023 were approved on Commissioner Carroll's motion, Vice Chair Meiners' second on a 7-0 vote. Commissioner Taniguchi was off the dais. Commissioner Ladner, Commissioner Rollason, and Commissioner Whatley were absent.

## **DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

2. Discussion and possible action on a recommendation to consider whether the Draft Zilker Park Vision Plan reflects the Shared Values for Urban Areas in the Urban Design

Guidelines. Presented by Gregory Montes, Parks and Recreation Department, and Claire Hempel, Design Workshop.

The motion below was approved as amended on Chair Weaver's motion, Commissioner Salinas' second on an 8-0 vote.

The Design Commission recommends the adoption of the Zilker Metropolitan Vision Plan dated March 2023 as compliant in meeting Shared Values for Urban Spaces listed in the Urban Design Guidelines only with the following changes:

- Remove the parking structure in Zone 1 to the west side of the park away from the Great Lawn. Increase services like restrooms and bike services within parking structures. Do not bury any parking structures.
- Create a detailed accessibility plan to connect parking structures, destinations, bike racks, restrooms, water fountains and illustrate path shading. Indicate responsiveness to the current erosion due to informal trails by adding designed trail uses.
- Create a concept lighting plan for the park.
- Maintain existing size of the Great Lawn.
- Include language that a certain portion of sidewalks receive shade.

**Commissioner McKinney introduced the following friendly amendment:** 

 Additional locations other than the location for the Hillside Theater should be explored.

**Commissioner Carroll introduced the following friendly amendments:** 

- Remove the parking garage in Zone 5 on Azie Morton.
- Remove all pavement on Lou Neff Road and replace with an accessible pedestrian path also accessible to emergency vehicles.

Commissioner Taniguchi introduced the following friendly amendment:

• Maintain recreational facilities as much as possible and maintain the inclusiveness of diverse communities.

Chair Weaver introduced the following friendly amendment:

• Engage a P3 Advisor for the Organizational Partnership; consider alternate funding methods for parking structures.

Vice Chair Meiners introduced the following friendly amendment:

• Continue improving connectivity of the shuttle program to and within the park.

All friendly amendments were accepted without objection.

Commissioner Ladner, Commissioner Rollason, and Commissioner Whatley were absent.

Chair Weaver adjourned the meeting at 8:48 p.m. without objection.

The minutes were approved at the 04/24/2023 meeting on Commissioner Carroll's motion, Vice Chair Meiners second on an 8-0 vote. Commissioner Taniguchi and Commissioner Whatley were off the dais.