

**LGBTQ QUALITY OF LIFE COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

April 10, 2023



**REGULAR MEETING of the LGBTQ QUALITY OF LIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION
Monday, April 10, 2023**

7:00 P.M.

**City of Austin Permitting and Development Center, Room 1401
6310 Wilhelmina Delco Dr., Austin, Texas 78752
MEETING MINUTES**

Some members of the Commission may be participating by videoconference.

Public comment will be allowed in-person or remotely via telephone. Speakers may only register to speak on an item once either in-person or remotely and will be allowed up to three minutes to provide their comments. Registration no later than noon the day before the meeting is required for remote participation by telephone. To register to speak remotely, contact Alyssa Parra the Commission's staff liaison, at 512-974-2934, or Alyssa.parra@austintexas.gov.

CURRENT COMMISSIONERS:

<i>Commissioner</i>	<i>Appointment</i>	<i>Commissioner</i>	<i>Appointment</i>
Ryn Gonzales, Chair	Stakeholder	Katie Jones	District 8
Kannou Curette, Vice Chair	District 1	Mariana Krueger	District 9
Christian Vieira	District 2	Brandon Wollerson	District 10
Dr. Victor Martinez	District 3	Marti Bier	Mayor
Darcy Rendon	District 4	Charles Curry	Stakeholder
Emily Bush	District 5	Melissa Taylor	Stakeholder
VACANT	District 6	VACANT	Stakeholder
John Scott Neal	District 7		

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

By Chair Ryn Gonzales at 7:03 P.M.

ROLL CALL:

Absent:

- Emily Bush

Present:

- Ryn Gonzales
- Marti Bier
- Charles Curry

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- Kannou Curette
- Mariana Krueger
- Katelyn Jones
- Victor Martinez
- John Scott Neal
- Melissa Taylor
- Darcy Rendon
- Christian Vieira
- Brandon Wollerson

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

No public communication.

MOTION TO SUSPEND ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER

- Motion made by Chair Gonzales, seconded by Commissioner Neal. All members present voted in favor; the motion was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Motion to approve the minutes of the Commission's Regular Meeting on March 13, 2023, Commissioner Curry motions, no changes, minutes approved.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

1. Approve the minutes of the Commission's Regular Meeting on March 13, 2023.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

2. APD LGBTQIA+ Liaison Christian Mendoza attended the meeting to gather questions from the commission.
 - What kind of de-escalation training does DPS go through and how does it compare to APD?
 - Who does DPS report to answer to and what is the plan for them to leave?
 - Do they operate under APDs policies or their own?
 - Who is paying for them, city, or state?
 - Will DPS be enforcing laws that APD has deprioritized?
 - Related to KXAN report on the number of arrests by DPS since start of partnership with APD, What kind of reporting can we expect moving forward and how does that compare with previous data?
 - Do we know the regions these DPS officers will be pulled from? Do they live in Austin or outside the Austin area?
 - Will there be transparency with where state troopers will be placed? What equity plans are there to not target communities of color?
 - What is DPS going to do when they encounter someone whose documentation

- doesn't match who they physically appear to be?
 - Related to the Department of homeland security grants to prevent discrimination in LGBTQ communities, what are the plans to keep the community safe against domestic terrorism and hate crimes? Especially during PRIDE month during a particularly awful legislation session.
 - What will APD be doing with the additional resources from DPS, is there going to be coordination between the location and the communities they represent? Or will DPS choose on their own?
 - Will this plan free up APD to focus on other areas that need protection? Including the LGBTQIA+ community for hate crimes and other communities who may not have gotten the resources they deserve?
 - Was legal guidance sought from the law department before this change was made? Did APD have the room to invite DPS and comply with city policy?
3. Briefing, discussion, and possible action on the [Design Commission Presentation](#) from the Project Connect Office updating the commission on the latest light rail developments. (Nan Dowling, Project Coordinator & Alyssa Hedge, Project Manager, from the Project Connect Office)
- What amount of anti-displacement dollars have been allocated to this project?
 - That funding is being administered by the city, with a lot of input from the community advisory community. Initial allocations have been made, nothing should affect this, will follow up.
 - How does the proposed change affect the ability to draw down federal dollars.
 - All these options have been proposed with the FTA partnership in mind.
 - Can you explain the function of the maintenance facility?
 - Maintain the vehicles & store them at night. Must have enough track for all the vehicles, 35-45 acres. Clean all electric facilities and many things that can be done to help local communities.
 - Environmental impact on local communities?
 - Lots of meetings with those neighborhood groups and to get their feedback. Not displacing residents, east side is in the airport overlay zone, restricted to have no future residential use.
 - Maintenance facilities in the terminal locations?
 - They don't have to be, do not affect expandability.
4. Discussion and possible action on safety of the Commission.
- Add parking and how to get into the building info in the next agenda.
 - Look into getting ATXN to live stream commission meeting.
 - Look into moving the event center.
 - Captioning?
5. Discussion and possible action on Commission Officer Elections.
- Introductions
 - Commissioner Curry nominates Commissioner Gonzales for Chair. Roll call vote, unanimous.
 - Commissioner Wollerson nominates Commissioner Neal, Commissioner Curette nominates commissioner Darcy, and she declines for Vice chair . Unanimous for commissioner Neal with commissioner Neal abstaining.

6. Discussion and possible action on a recommendation to support trans and non-binary inclusive uniforms for COA lifeguards. (Sponsored by Commissioner Bier)
 - Remove the options designated specific sex and have more options available.
There is cost impact for that, so that may not work. We should propose the ideal way.
 - What is the current way PARD orders uniforms?
 - Size inclusivity was added to the final recommendation.
 - Is it better to have one uniform for everyone that is the same, or is it better for you to have options?
 - Unanimous with Commissioner Wollerson and Commissioner Jones absent from the vote.
7. Briefing, discussion, and possible action on legislative session & LGBTQ Bills.
 - Equality Texas tracker 144 good bills, 140 bad bills
 - Push to remove the trans & non-binary community from the community at large.
 - Recommend for an assessment to see impact of these bill on the LGBTQ community.
8. Discussion and possible action on Budget and financial rules for working with departments.
9. Discussion and possible action on priorities related to our budget recommendations on housing and mental health.
 - Other possible recommendations- rental rights & lived experience of our community in living in affordable housing. We have no idea how well represented the LGBTQ community is in affordable housing, we need SoGi data.
 - STR in east Austin because it is taking housing out of the housing inventory.
 - There did not appear to be a good understanding in the community of housing assistance.
 - Community Advancement Network top priority is mental health first aid assistance. Could be focusing on a community discussion of mental health first aid.
10. Discussion and possible action of reappointing and recruiting new at-large members.
 - 40 applicants Melissa to report back next meeting.
11. Discussion and possible action on forming a working group related to intergovernmental relations.
 - Tabled
12. Discussion and possible action on increasing community input in the commission.
 - Tabled
13. Discussion and possible action from the Housing Working Group and possible Housing recommendations. (Until September 30, 2023, with Vice Chair Curette (Lead), and Commissioners Curry, Vieira, and Rendon)

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14. Discussion and possible action from the SoGi Data Working Group and possible SoGi data recommendations. (Until September 30, 2023, with Commissioners Wollerson (Lead), Curry, Bier, Chair Gonzales, Bondi)
15. Discussion and possible action from New Commissioners Working Group (Until September 30, 2023, with Commissioners Jones, Martinez, and Vieira)

Future agenda items

Cities HR management system banner

ADJOURNMENT

Chair adjourned at 9:24 pm with no objections.

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 2 days (48 hours) before the meeting date. Please contact Alyssa Parra, the Commission's staff liaison, at 512-974-2934 or alyssa.parra@austintexas.gov for additional information; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.

For more information on the LGBTQ Quality of Life Advisory Commission, please contact Alyssa Parra, the Commission's staff liaison, at 512-974-2934 or Alyssa.parra@austintexas.gov.

The minutes were approved at the May 15thth meeting on Chair Gonzales' motion, Commissioner Curry's second on a unanimous vote.