



***TOURISM COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES  
10, MAY 2023***

The TOURISM COMMISSION convened in a REGULAR meeting on 10, MAY 2023, at 301 w. Second St. in Austin, Texas.

Commissioner Ronan called the TOURISM COMMISSION Meeting to order at 2:35 p.m.

Board Members/Commissioners in Attendance:

Commissioners Ed Bailey, Aileen Bazan, Greg Chanon, Rachel Magee, Stefani Mathis, Anna Panossian, John Riedie & Daniel Ronan

Board Members/Commissioners in Attendance Remotely:

Commissioner Mike Cannatti

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Approve the minutes of the TOURISM COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING on APRIL 12, 2023.

The minutes from the meeting of 4/12/2023 were approved on Commissioner Chanon's motion, Commissioner Panossian's second on a 7-0-1 vote.

Those members voting aye, Commissioners Bailey, Bazan, Chanon, Magee, Panossian, Riedie, & Ronan. Commissioner Mathis abstained due to new start of service.

**STAFF BRIEFINGS**

2. Introduction of staff liaison, including new board members, and discussion of vacancies on the Commission.

**DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

3. Presentation by Kathy Dunn Hamrick with the Austin Dance Festival
4. Presentation by Alex Alford with the Austin Shakespeare

5. Discussion and Approval of future meeting dates (potentially canceling December meetings for the holiday break).
  - a. Recommendation adopting to cancel the December 2023 meeting was approved on Commissioner Magee's motion, Commissioner Chanon's second on a 9-0 vote.
6. Discussion of Tourism Commission including Annual Commission Road Map, led by Chair Daniel Ronan
  - a. Commissioners are to invite to future meetings any of Austin organizations to share how they help elevate Austin Tourism
  - b. Invite the Economic Development Department
    - i. Cultural Arts Funding
      1. Funding audit for cultural investments
      2. Philanthropy a consideration to build Tourism
        - a. Broader Arts and Culture community
        - b. Economic impact
        - c. Special Events Division
    - ii. Live Music Funding
      1. Allocation challenges and changes
      2. Industry (musician/ venues) shortcomings
      3. Coalition of Musicians downfalls
      4. Invite Music Commission Board
      5. Musician Union, Local 433
      6. Red River Cultural District
    - iii. Current changes to the program
      1. Including outside of Austin area
      2. Freeze on the program and the analysis on how the board operates
      3. HOT updates and funding allocations
  - c. Parks and Rec Department
    - i. Parklands and open spaces
    - ii. New Zilker Park Organization
  - d. Short-Term Rentals
    - i. Texas and Austin Hotel & Lodging Associations to present
    - ii. City of Austin, Intergovernmental Relations Office
  - e. Austin Convention Center Department
    - i. Expansion Plans - RFQ
  - f. Visit Austin
    - i. Developments of the Downtown and general Austin area
  - g. Austin Hotel & Lodging Association
    - i. What hotels are currently building in Austin
      1. How many are coming
      2. What does the pipeline look like
      3. Stay current on developments to project on HOT funds

- h. TPID – Tourism Public Improvement Districts in Austin
  - i. Review current agreement/ service plan
- i. Working Group
  - i. Dissolution for working groups
  - ii. Reconstitute new working groups

#### **WORKING GROUP/COMMITTEE UPDATES**

- 7. No updates from the TPID working group.
- 8. No updates from the Parks and Environment working group.

#### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- 9. Invite Scott Joslove, Texas Hotel and Lodging Association and Denise Eisman, Austin Hotel and Lodging Association to discuss TPID.
- 10. Request a joint meeting with the Downtown Commission board with overlapping conversations that impact tourism.
- 11. Request Capital Metro to present their methods of promoting public transit options to tourists and their partnerships to Project Connect on the growth of tourism in the city.
- 12. Request the Office of the Governor, Economic Development and Tourism division, Tim Fennell, Tourism Director, to present their resources and services to enhance tourism information.
- 13. Discussion and Action Item for Short-Term Rental Funds, looking into short stay companies and collections.
- 14. Invite the Economics Development Department

**Motion to adjourn the meeting by Commissioner Chanon and seconded by Commissioner Magee. Chair Ronan adjourned the meeting at 4:31 p.m. without objection.**

**The minutes were approved at the June 14, 2023 meeting on Commissioner Panossian's motion, Commissioner Chanon's second on a (8-0) vote.**