



**SPECIAL CALLED MEETING of the LGBTQ QUALITY OF LIFE ADVISORY
COMMISSION**

Monday, May 15, 2023

7:00 P.M.

City of Austin Permitting and Development Center, Room 4001

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	VACANT	District 8
VACANT	District 1	Mariana Krueger	District 9
Christian Vieira	District 2	Brandon Wollerson	District 10
Tanya Karakashian	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 7:13 P.M.

ROLL CALL:

Absent:

- Melissa Taylor
- Marti Bier

Present:

- Ryn Gonzales

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- Charles Curry
- Mariana Krueger
- John Scott Neal
- Darcy Rendon
- Christian Vieira
- Brandon Wollerson
- Tanya Karakashian
- Emily Bush

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. Unanimous approval the minutes of the Commission's Regular Meeting on April 10, as amended.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

2. Discussion and possible action on revised February 13, 2023, minutes.
 - a. All in Favor with Commissioners Neal & Krueger abstaining.
3. Discussion and possible action of Officer Elections.
 - a. Commissioner Neal nominates Commissioner Gonzales, seconded by Commissioner Wollerson. Motion Passes unanimously, with a roll call vote.
4. Discussion and possible action on APD & DPS partnership and reports of racial profiling.
 - a. APD/ DPS partnership ends but could resume in a few weeks.
 - b. Liaison to follow up on our questions to APD.
5. Discussion and possible action on appointing Joint Inclusion Committee Representatives.
 - a. Recommendation from Commissioner Curry to have a senior LGBTQ POC as the JIC representative.
 - b. Each commission on the JIC only has one vote, made by the representative, 4th Wednesday of the month at 3pm-5pm at City Hall or virtual.
 - c. JIC representatives are generally nominated every year but could happen sooner and/or at any time.
 - d. Commissioner Curry self nominates as our alternate until LGBTQ commission has a replacement.
 - e. Vote tabled, Commissioner Curry is current Primary, and Commissioner

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Gonzales the alternate.

6. Presentation, discussion, and possible action on legislative session & LGBTQ Bills.
 - a. Failed Bills: HB1752, SB42, HB1804, and HB4534,
 - b. Bills still in process: HB1686, HB1029, SB15, SB12, SB17, SB8, SB763, SB1072, HB900, and SB559
 - c. The Crown Act has officially passed through both chambers and is on the way to the governor's desk.
7. Discussion and possible action on Budget and financial rules for working with departments.
 - a. Financial Five-Year Forecast: includes a list of unfunded council directives starting on page 41.
 - b. Many recommendations we can make that are not budget related, Mental health, SoGi data, affordable housing etc.
 - c. Recommendation for Mental Health First Aid does not replace therapy. Do not want to conflate with Mental Health Support.
 - i. Reminding people what first aid is, it is given in the moment of crisis, follow-up is still needed.
 - d. Equity Action is a coalition with 40 different organizations and non-profits, created a Community Investment budget of 107 million they are proposing to Council.
 - i. Commissioner Krueger recommendation is we join the Equity Action Coalition.
 - ii. Commissioner Krueger to notify liaison when Community Investment Budget is public.
 - e. Social services contracts through APH, specifically legacy contracts, could be reevaluated.
 - f. More funding is needed for entire mental health structure including mental health mobile unit, emergency room etc.
 - g. Undoing racism training contract up at the end of the calendar year.
 - h. Budget process for Travis County will be shared by Commissioner Wollerson.
 - i. Keep Budget on the agenda moving forward, will be another round of Town Halls in September & October, dates to TBD.
8. Discussion and possible action on the creation of a working group for appointing and recruiting new at-large members.
 - a. Tabled – led by Commissioner Taylor
9. Discussion and possible action on forming a working group related to intergovernmental relations.
 - a. Tabled until June after the legislative session, led by Commissioner Neal.

10. Discussion and possible action on increasing community input in the commission.
 - a. Requested by Commissioner Neal
 - b. How can we make our role more understood in the community & hear from community members who may not show up to a meeting? How can we be more effective?
 - i. Having meetings or events outside of this space that the public is invited to.
 - ii. June 24- LGBTQ Chamber of commerce queer live music event
 1. Should we have a presence?
 - iii. June 24- Colors of Pride event from Qwell
 - iv. Going to queer spaces, such as Cheer up Charlie's could be a great space for outreach.
 - v. Could individual commissioners' live stream through personal accounts?
 - vi. Queer listening session
 - vii. Create a high-level breakdown on the work the commission does, the time we meet, the role of the commissioners to share with the public.
 - viii. Accessibility- what is the easiest way for people to give us the information we need to make recommendations?
 - ix. Next step on this is a working group, less than a quorum, no staff support, no minutes, no agendas posted. To form a working group, we need more than one member, purpose (presentation, report, process document), time limited.
 1. Working to plan a retreat, but it is important that everyone on the commission has input.
 2. Working group with Commissioners Neal, Tunchez, and Kruger (alternate) to generate ideas on how to engage the community, by our End of the fiscal year, 9/30/23. Seconded by Commissioner Ryn. All in favor unanimous.
11. Discussion and possible action on City's HR management system banner.
 - a. Drafting a recommendation, a part of our work on SoGi data collection
12. Discussion and possible action on the recognition of outgoing commissioners.
 - a. Tabled
13. Discussion and possible action from the Housing Working Group and possible Housing recommendations. (Until September 30, 2023, with Commissioners Curry, Vieira, and Rendon)
 - a. No update
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)
 - a. No update
15. Discussion and possible action from New Commissioners Working Group (Until September 30, 2023, with Commissioners Viera)
 - a. Need to replace Commissioner Jones, tabled.

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FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Presentation on Community Investment Budget from Equity Action

ADJOURNMENT

Chair adjourned at 9:07 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.

These minutes were approved at the September 11, 2023, Commission meeting.