



Alamo Plaza Advisory Committee
MINUTES
Tuesday, June 10, 2014
8:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.
The Alamo

Councilmember Diego Bernal	Tri-Chair	Present
Marise McDermott	Tri-Chair	Present
Sue Ann Pemberton, FAIA	Tri-Chair	Present
Howard Peak	1994 Alamo Plaza Study Committee Representative	Present
Ramon J. Vasquez	History/Archeology Representative	Present
Dr. Steve Tomka	History/Archeology Representative	Absent
Dr. Sharon Skrobarcek	History/Archeology Representative	Present
Larry L. Laine	State of Texas Designee	Present
Mardi Arce	Federal Government Designee	Present
Frank Z. Ruttenberg	Private Property Owner Representative	Absent
Davis Phillips	Tourism Designee	Absent
Roger Perez	District 1 Appointee	Present
Anthony Edwards	District 2 Appointee	Present
Patricia Mejia	District 3 Appointee	Present
Rudolph F. Rodriguez	District 4 Appointee	Absent
Gabe Farias	District 5 Appointee	Present
Rudi Rodriguez	District 6 Appointee	Absent
Ed Torres	District 7 Appointee	Present
Boone Powell, FAIA	District 8 Appointee	Absent
Bill Brendell	District 9 Appointee	Present
Jack Judson	District 10 Appointee	Absent

Others Present: Colleen Swain (CCDO), Sarah Esserlieu (CCDO), Mimi Quintanilla (Consultant, Facilitator), Claudia Guerra (OHP), Christopher Looney (DSD), Pat Schneider (TCI), Dr. Bruce Winders

DISABILITY ACCESS STATEMENT



The Alamo is accessible to persons with disabilities. Parking is available at the surface lot behind the Alamo on Houston Street between Bonham Street and Bowie Street. Auxiliary aids and services, including Deaf interpreters, must be requested forty-eight [48] hours prior to the meeting. For accessibility assistance, call 207-7268 or 711 (Texas Relay Service for the Deaf).



1. Welcome by Committee Tri-Chairs
2. *Guided Tour of the Alamo Chapel & Grounds by Dr. Bruce Winders, Historian and Curator of the Alamo*: Overview of features of the façade of the chapel. The tour then moved into the courtyard. The well shaft is original but the well head is not. Dr. Winders mentioned the preservation movement: to Clara Driscoll, the Alamo was the church; to Adina de Zavala, the Alamo was the convent. The second floor of the convento was removed in 1913. Question from the committee: where are the women's stories?

The tour moved into the Long Barracks. There was a slavery crackdown on legal immigrants and those immigrants who had not gone through the legal immigration system. One-third of the Alamo's population was legal immigrants. There were also Tejanos and illegal immigrants (people who had not gone through the legal immigration channels). In 1836, the Alamo was part of the town.

Question from committee member Ramon Vazquez: who writes the text for the exhibits? Dr. Winders responded that he does. The inclusion of Seguin is the point of the new exhibit installation in an attempt to include more of the inclusive story.

The tour moved to the church: Pam Rosser (conservator at the Alamo) provided an overview of ongoing research and current conservation efforts, showing the plaster and design elements of the interior rooms, roofing, windows, and doorways.

The tour then moved to Alamo Hall, which used to be a fire station. Question from Tri-Chair Marise McDermott: Is the Alamo in a master plan? Response from Larry Laine: the library renovations and Alamo Hall improvements are part of a plan.

Dr. Winders: We are still making history today. The city needs to develop a common narrative for the history of San Antonio. Comment from committee member Ramon Vasquez: there were a number of battles that all played a part in the whole story; a mosaic of history, not isolated stories. Dr. Winders: It is important to frame the Alamo in the present, too. A discussion ensued of continuity of history: tracing history of the site from before it was a mission, through the mission, Battle of the Alamo, urban growth of San Antonio.

3. Wrap-up, meeting adjourned.