



Travis County Commissioners Court Agenda Request

Meeting Date: September 30, 2014

Prepared By/Phone Number: John Carr, 854-4772

Dept. Head: Roger A. El Khodary, M.S., P.E., Director, FMD, 854-4579

County Executive: Leroy Nellis, Acting County Executive, PBO, 854-9106

Sponsoring Court Members: County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

Consider and take appropriate action on request from the National Forum for Black Public Administrators (NFBPA) to use the Commissioners Courtroom in the 700 Lavaca Street building on October 9, 2014.

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Facilities Management Department (FMD) received a request from Ms. Juanita Jackson, to use the Commissioners Court from 8 am to 10:00 am on October 9, 2014. Purpose of the use is in support of the NFBPA Regional Leadership Summit Public Administration Day. On September 23, 2014, the Commissioners Court approve a Memorandum of Understanding for Travis County's support for Leadership 2014 to sponsor approximately 125 local students plus chaperones for this event. A light breakfast will be provided prior to the Commissioner Courtroom event in one of the multi-function rooms from 7:30 am to 8:00 am. The Commissioners Courtroom is not reserved at this time for any other approved use.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Facilities Management Department recommends the Commissioners Court approve the requested use of the Commissioners Courtroom for the NFBPA Regional Leadership Summit Public Administration Day event.

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES:

This requested use of the Commissioners Court use is during normal business hours. There are no additional facilities related costs associated with this use of the Commissioners Courtroom.

FISCAL IMPACT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

None

ATTACHMENTS/EXHIBITS:

None

REQUIRED AUTHORIZATIONS:

None



Travis County Commissioners Court Agenda Request

Meeting Date: September 30, 2014

Prepared By/Phone Number: Juanita Jackson – 854-4467

Elected/Appointed Official/Dept. Head: Sherri E. Fleming,
County Executive for Health and Human Services and Veterans Service

Commissioners Court Sponsor: Judge Samuel T. Biscoe & Commissioner R. Davis

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

Consider and Take Appropriate Action To Approve The Use of the Travis County Commissioners Court on October 9, 2014 to Host Youth Participating in Central Texas Chapter of the National Forum for Black Public Administrators (NFBPA) Public Administration Day:

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF REQUEST AND ATTACHMENTS:

On Tuesday, September 23, 2014, the Court approved an MOU for the NFBPA Central Texas Chapter which will be held on October 9 – 10, 2014. The organization provides support to local government managers in a multitude of disciplines, through intensive training, professional development programs, and a powerful network of public leadership. Locally, the Central Texas Chapter has over 150 members, provides the same support services as the national organization, and serves as a resource for local public administrators.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Staff recommends approval of this item.

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES:

This is an opportunity to increase the awareness of the roles of public administrators and support the enrichment and education of youth in exploring careers in public administration. (See Attached)

NFBPA has previously used the City Council Chambers for this event. They cannot use those facilities this year because they are under construction.

FISCAL IMPACT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Staff recommends the use of the Commissioners Court chambers at no cost.

AGENDA REQUEST DEADLINE: All agenda requests and supporting materials must be submitted as a pdf to Agenda in the County Judge's office, Agendar@co.travis.tx.us by **Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m.** for the next week's meeting.

REQUIRED AUTHORIZATIONS:

Mary Etta Gerhardt, Assistant County Attorney'

Leroy Nellis, Interim County Executive – Planning and Budget Office

Cyd Grimes, CPM, Travis County Purchasing Agent

Nicki Riley, CPA, Travis County Auditor

Aerin Toussaint, Budget Analyst I, Planning and Budget

Sherri Fleming, County Executive - HHS

Kathleen Haas, Financial Manager

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NFPBA Youth Public Administration Description

Purpose: To provide high school students exposure to local government in order to increase their knowledge and create awareness about Public Administration career opportunities.

The City of Austin, Travis County and NFBPA partnered with Austin Independent School District to provide a unique experience for high school students.

Participating Year	Number of Students Participated	Participating Schools
*2014	125(invited)	Manor ISD & Austin, LBJ, and Reagan High Schools and Manor New Tech
2013	75	Austin, LBJ, and Reagan High Schools
2012	66	Austin, LBJ, and Reagan High Schools

Each year 125 students are invited to participate. In 2013, we hosted 75 students from three high schools to expose them to Public Services in local government within the City of Austin and Travis County. The student’s day began at City Hall with a welcome from Elected Officials, City and County Executives.

The day’s events were scheduled through coordinated efforts with participating departments and staff. The students were divided into small groups to have a more hands-on exposure and experience of the various careers in local government. The students were provided information from the following areas such as: Austin Energy, Austin Resource Recovery, Austin Water Utility, Code Enforcement, Fire, Health and Human Services, Parks and Recreation, Public Works, Transportation and the Travis County Tax Office. The students were provided a meaningful experience that increased their knowledge about Public Administration and information about the various career opportunities available to them. These sessions included important components that enhance youth development and life-long goals as they make decisions about their career.

Throughout this experience door prizes are given to the students utilizing a random drawing. Local sponsors as well as City of Austin Departments provide door prizes. Some of the door prizes include gift cards, digital cameras, X-Box games and consoles and computer tablets.

The student’s day was as followed:

- 9:00 a.m. – 9:30 am Students arrived at Austin City Hall Council Chambers for welcome
- 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Students were divided and sent to different Departments
- 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Students ended the day by attending the Educational Excellence Luncheon at the Sheraton Austin Hotel with a keynote speaker.
- 2:30 p.m. Students transported back to their High School campuses

Students were surveyed to determine if the program is meeting the objectives of the purpose. The survey results revealed the majority of students strongly agree to the following outcomes:

- They knew more about Public Administration
- As a result of what they learned at Public Administration day they would consider working in Public Administration
- Overall the day was beneficial.