

**MINUTES OF THE SHORT TERM RENTAL AD HOC COMMITTEE
OF THE CITY OF GALVESTON
REGULAR MEETING - MAY 28, 2025**

5/28/2025 - Short Term Rental Ad Hoc Committee Minutes

1. Declaration of a quorum and call meeting to order

Sheila Lidstone declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Committee Members Dominique Brown, Sheila Lidstone (Chair), David Bloom, Joseph Spencer, Ted Shook, Claire Reiswerg (Vice Chair), and Debra Burkley; Stakeholder Members Christine Bryant (Vision Galveston), Liz Overton(GARM), Robert Zahn (GAR), and Chris Wren (STROAG); Tim Tietjens (City Staff); and Bob Brown (CityCouncil).

3. Public Comment

Members of the public may address the Committee. Speakers will be limited to three minutes.

- **Security Officer Craig Dickey from Beachside Village commented on concerns with parking enforcement.**
- **Carlson Bruner commented that he is trying to figure out what is the issue with parking that needs to be fixed.**
- **Sea Isle HOA President Bob Matthews commented on issues on the West End and needing the committee to act as quickly as possible.**
- **East End resident Laura commented that additional regulations are not needed.**

4. Review and approve Minutes of the May 7, 2025 Meeting.

4.A Draft Minutes May 7, 2025

Claire Reiswerg made a motion to approve the May 7, 2025 minutes, with Joseph Spencer seconding the motion. Unanimously approved.

5. Update on Short Term Rental discussion, deliberations and decisions by Galveston City Council as provided by Council Member/STR Committee Liaison Bob Brown

and City Staff.

Council Member Bob Brown reported that the City Council met to discuss the draft ordinance. This committee has until June 26th to deliver to City Council recommended amendments to the STR ordinance for enforceable regulations for parking across the Island. Some of the issues discussed include an immediate need for Marshals to work nights and weekends. The City Manager advised that there are currently only three Marshals, the City has about a million dollars to get the program started but is not sustainable. Some of the issues discussed by Council include the City does not yet have control of the call center, assigning a number of parking spaces based on the number of bedrooms or square feet of a house, and no parking on the street on the West End between certain hours without a parking permit.

6. Consideration of parking issues related to short term rental uses in each of the following areas:

6.A

- East End (east of 19th Street)
- Midtown (19th Street to 61st Street)
- Near West End (61st Street to Jamaica Beach)
- West End (Jamaica Beach to San Luis Pass)

and consideration of recommendations for remedies for presentation to City Council at their regular meeting and/or workshop scheduled for June 26, 2025.

The committee discussed current parking issues with short term rentals.

Discussion topics:

- Asking the City Manager to provide the cost of enforcement
- Increasing the STR registration fee to \$500 per year
- Hiring additional City Marshals as seasonal employees during peak season
- Parking regulations for short term rentals will not solve residential parking issues on the East End
- Placing some responsibility on homeowners associations
- The need for different solutions for different parts of the city and being pragmatic about what the committee recommends to the City
- Putting the responsibility on the STR operators to make sure the guests understand the rules

Suggestions moving forward:

- Utilizing technology for renters to register vehicles that will be at the STR
- Regulations that can be implemented quickly; beta test an area for no parking on

the street

- Posting the owner/operator information on the property and online
- Focusing on enforcement of worse cast operators
- Parking is a function of occupancy
- Improving operations at the call center

The committee discussed dividing the City into four areas, including East End (east of 19th Street), Midtown (19th Street to 61st Street), Near West End (61st Street to Jamaica Beach), and West End (Jamaica Beach to San Luis Pass).

Two areas were identified with the following regulations:

- 61st Street to the East End of the Island - two on-street parking spaces plus what fits in the driveway
- 61st Street to the West End of the Island - parking only allowed in the driveway - no parking on the street

The committee will vote on this item at the next meeting.

7. Determine date and time of next meetings and topics for each meeting.

The next meeting will be held on June 4, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:46 p.m.



Janelle Williams, City Secretary

Date Approved: June 11, 2025