

**Quality of Life
Council Committee Meeting
Minutes**

Tuesday, November 18, 2008

3:00 p.m.

Municipal Plaza Room B

Members Present: Councilmember Delicia Herrera, *District 6, Chair*
Councilmember Mary Alice Cisneros, *District 1*
Councilmember Jennifer Ramos, *District 3*
Councilmember Diane Cibrian, *District 8*

Staff Present: A.J. Rodriguez, *Deputy City Manager*; Frances Gonzalez, *Assistant City Manager*; Drew Cameron, *Grants Monitoring & Administration Director*; David Garza, *Housing & Neighborhood Services Director*; David McCary, *Solid Waste Management Director*; Dennis Campa, *Community Initiatives Director*; Ramiro Salazar, *Library Director*; ; Leticia Saenz, *Deputy City Clerk*; Enid Howard, *Assistant City Attorney*; Brandon Smith, *Office of the City Clerk*

Others Present: Dominique Halaby, *UTSA*; Nancy Rocha, *Wells Fargo Brokerage*; Brian Smith, *Genzyme*; Harper Huddleston, *Harper/Huddleston*; Cassandra Ortiz, *Shelton & Valadez*; Fred Cardenas, *Daughters of Charity Services*; Tanya Huerta; Patsy Gray, *Madonna Center*; Brian Mason, *Northwestern Mutual*; Lauro Bustamante, *CAAI*; Jill Christie, *KTSH*; Faris Hodge, Jr

Call to order

Chairperson Herrera called the Meeting to order.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Quality of Life Council Committee Meeting on October 14, 2008 and the Special Meeting held on October 22, 2008

Councilmember Cisneros moved to approve the Minutes of the October 14, 2008 Quality of Life Committee Meeting and the October 22, 2008 Quality of Life Special Committee Meeting. Councilmember Ramos seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Recommendation and possible action regarding appointments to the Head Start Policy Council (7 slots) and the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) (11 slots)

Presented by Leticia M. Vacek, City Clerk

Leticia Saenz reported that the Head Start Policy Council was composed of fifteen appointees and that the City Council makes seven of those appointments. She noted that there were four applicants for reappointment with one present, Andria Macias-Castillo, and that Dr. Adelita Cantu, Ana O'Connor, and Dr. Judith York were not present and sent statements to the Committee. Ms. Saenz read said statements to the Committee.

Andria Macias-Castillo stated that she has served two years on the Head Start Policy Council and would like to complete the transition process currently in effect. She also noted her Childcare Provider experience and national accreditation.

Councilmember Cisneros moved to recommend Dr. Adelita Cantu, Ms. Andria Macias-Castillo, Ms. Ana O'Connor, and Dr. Judith York to the full Council for reappointment to the Head Start Policy Council. Councilmember Ramos seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Dennis Campa clarified that Fred Cardenas was an applicant for the Early Childhood Education Category, not the Business Category.

Higher Education Category

Ms. Saenz read a statement from Dr. Renea Fike who wrote that she would like to serve.

Darrell Balderrama, Outreach Center Assistant Director – UTSA, cited his experience in education and non-profit organizations and noted that his employer was willing to adjust his schedule to serve if appointed.

Councilmember Cibrian entered the meeting at this time.

Councilmember Cisneros moved to recommend Darrell Balderama to the full Council for appointment to the Higher Education Category. Councilmember Ramos seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Early Childhood Education Category

Ms. Saenz read a statement from Dr. Evangeline Aguilera who wrote that she would like to serve. She noted that Linda Jackson was not in attendance and that no statement was received on her behalf.

Fred Cardenas, Daughters of Charity Childcare Services, cited 25 years of Childhood Education experience and a Masters Degree in Social work. He noted that he would like to support the new providers' transition into the Head Start Program and support the City to become the best Head Start model in the nation.

Patsy Gray, Madonna Center, cited 28 years experience in Child Care with 18 years as a Pre-School Teacher. She noted that she would like to ensure that low-income students received the same opportunity as high-income students.

Ms. Saenz clarified that Tanya Huerta was an applicant for the Business Category.

Brian Smith, Genzyme Pharmaceutical, cited 24 years of military experience, specializing in training. He noted that he served as a Parent Volunteer Leader with the Cub Scouts.

Dr. Linda Williams cited 20 years of experience in Early Childhood Education, with English as a Second Language (ESL) and Administration Certifications.

Councilmember Cisneros moved to recommend Dr. Linda Williams to the full Council for appointment to the Early Childhood Education Category. Councilmember Cibrian seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Business Category

Tanya Huerta, Physical Therapist-SAISD, stated that she had assisted in creating the Sonoma University Early Head Start Curriculum and had served several terms on the Early Childhood Intervention Board.

Councilmember Cibrian moved to recommend Tanya Huerta to the full Council for consideration to the Board Category. Councilmember Ramos seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The City Attorney's Office notified the Committee of a possible conflict of interest with the appointment of Tanya Huerta due to her employment with SAISD, one of the proposed providers of the City's Head Start Program. Chairperson Herrera announced said motion would be placed on hold for staff discussion and final determination.

At this time, the Committee addressed appointments to the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC). Ms. Saenz reported that said Committee was formed through the Planning and Development Services Department and that there were eleven categories open for appointment.

Richard Milk reported that the CDAC was formed to implement oversight of the Strategic Plan for Community Development. He noted that the CDAC would represent the full range of stakeholders involved in Community Development and oversee a variety of components regarding the Strategic Plan.

College & University Category

Albert Carrisalez, Assistant to the President and the Director of External Affairs-UTSA, stated that he was a graduate of the UTSA College of Business and has been involved in the Strategic Plan Initiative at UTSA. He confirmed that he would have sufficient time to devote to the Committee if appointed.

Christine Drennan, Director of Urban Studies – Trinity University, stated that her research and professional interests were to impose neighborhood change. She noted that she was President of the Olmos Park Terrace Neighborhood Association.

Ernest Gerlach, UTSA Business Program Director, detailed his background in Urban Studies and Public Administration. He cited his experience in Economic and Community Development and with Non-Profits as qualification for nomination.

Environmental Category

Steven Sano stated that he was a stakeholder, business owner, and an advocate for Public Health and Environmental concerns. He detailed his background in Toxicology and noted his objectives as an active Public Health Advocate, forming programs and policy within the community.

Ms. Saenz informed the Committee that the CDAC follows the guidelines of the Boards and Commissions Guidelines requiring appointees to be citizens of the City of San Antonio. She noted that said requirement could be waived.

Councilmember Ramos moved to recommend Steven Sano to the full Council for appointment to the Environmental Category with waiver of residency. Councilmember Cibrian seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairperson Herrera recessed the Meeting into Executive Session at 4:40 p.m. She reconvened the Meeting at 4:49 p.m. and stated that no action had been taken in Executive Session

Councilmember Ramos moved to reconsider the nomination of Tanya Huerta. Councilmember Cisneros seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Tanya Huerta addressed the Committee and withdrew her application for appointment to the Head Start Policy Council. She noted that she would be willing to serve should the Committee need her expertise in the future.

Councilmember Cisneros moved to recommend Fred Cardenas to the full Council for appointment to the Business Category. Councilmember Ramos seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

At this time, Chairperson Herrera announced that due to time constraints, Items 5 and 6 would be addressed at the next Committee Meeting.

Financial Services

Nancy Rocha detailed her education and background in Public Relations and International Relations. She cited her experience in assisting municipalities' access capital markets as qualification for appointment.

Councilmember Cisneros moved to recommend Nancy Rocha to the full Council for appointment to the Financial Services Category. Councilmember Ramos seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Neighborhood Association

Ms. Saenz read a statement on behalf of Seahn Lobb who expressed his experience.

Ignacio Perez stated that the CDAC will offer stakeholders and business owners a unique opportunity to reinvest and develop community programs.

Councilmember Cisneros moved to recommend Ignacio Perez to the full Council for appointment Neighborhood Association Category. Councilmember Cibrian seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Non-Profit Developer/Service Provider

Ms. Saenz informed the Committee that the candidate that was present for interview had to leave. She notified the Committee that Christine Drennan was also qualified for appointment in this category.

Councilmember Ramos expressed concern regarding her nominee not being included in said category for appointment.

It was the consensus of the Committee to postpone consideration of said category and to include Christine Drennan as a nominee.

Non-Profit Housing Provider

Councilmember Cisneros moved to recommend Jennifer Gonzalez to the full Council for appointment. Councilmember Ramos seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Transit

Christina Marie Castano-Perez, VIA Metropolitan Planner, stated that her passion was public planning to promote an environmentally conscious society with regard to coordination of land use and transportation, fostering smart growth, economic development and transit development.

Joanne Walsh cited her background with the Texas Department of Transportation and noted that she had the desire and the time to serve on the CDAC.

Councilmember Cisneros requested to place applicant Joanne Walsh in the Small Business Assistant Category for consideration.

Councilmember Cisneros moved to recommend Christina Marie Castano-Perez to the full Council for appointment to the Public Transit Category. Councilmember Ramos seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

At this time, Chairperson allowed J. Oscar Ramirez to interview for the Neighborhood Association Category.

Mr. Ramirez, Executive Director of the Avenue La Guadalupe Association, stated that he felt he would bring a unique and diversified approach that would be instrumental in assisting the CDAC in the implementation of its goals.

Chairperson Herrera suggested the possibility of alternate appointments. Ms. Saenz noted that staff would confer with the City Attorney's Office for further direction regarding that option.

Real Estate / Development

Dionelle Davis stated San Antonio was a great City and tourist attraction. He noted his motivation to keep individuals in the City through Real Estate Development.

Former Councilmember Debra Guerrero cited her experience as a former policy maker through the City Council and the Planning Commission and expressed a desire to change neighborhoods and the community.

Harper Huddleston, Real Estate Developer, highlighted his experience in the revitalization of inner city areas.

Councilmember Ramos moved to recommend Debra Guerrero to the full Council for appointment to the Real Estate/Development. Councilmember Cisneros seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

School District

William Peters stated that was an employee of the Northside School District. He noted that he coordinates the acquisition of school facilities for the School District.

Councilmember Cisneros moved to recommend Lauro Bustamante to the full Council for appointment. Councilmember Ramos seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Small Business Assistance

Gordon Sanford cited 38 years of experience in Small Business Development and noted that he would bring a Small Business Development perspective to the policy deliberations of the CDAC.

James Thompson, Network Administrator, addressed the Committee and withdrew his application.

Councilmember Cisneros moved to recommend Joanne Walsh to the full Council for appointment. Councilmember Ramos requested to postpone recommendation for the said category.

Workforce Development & Capacity Building

Ms. Saenz read a statement on behalf of Robert Olivares who wrote that he would like to serve.

Dominique Halaby, Director of the Center for Community & Business Outreach – UTSA, detailed an extensive educational professional background and noted that he has taught Non-Profit Leadership at the Master and Doctoral Levels and has made numerous presentations on Workforce Development.

At this time, Councilmember Cisneros moved to recommend Christine Drennan to the full Council for appointment in the Non-Profit Developer/Service Provider Category. Councilmember Ramos seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Cisneros moved to recommend Dominique Halaby to the full Council for appointment in the Workforce Development & Capacity Building category. Councilmember Ramos seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Cisneros moved to recommend Albert Carrisalez to the full Council for appointment in the College & University category. Councilmember Ramos seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Saenz noted that recommendation for the Small Business Assistance Category would be brought back to the Committee at a future date.

3. Update on Masterplan for the Mission Drive-In Redevelopment Project
Presented by Steve Tillotson, Consultant, Kell-Munoz

a. Consideration and action to approve Masterplan

Steve Tillotson presented a draft for the Mission Drive-In Redevelopment Project Masterplan. He noted that 26-acre site would include a 15,000-20,000 square foot branch library and cited the National Park Service and the Hispanic Association of Colleges as additional critical site partners. He added that the preservation of the original Mission Theater Marquis would be incorporated into the design of the Project.

b. Consideration and action to approve Mission Drive-In TIRZ

Adrian Lopez presented details regarding the Mission Drive-In Tax Increment Financing Program. He noted the following eligible projects within the Mission Drive-In that would be subject to the TIRZ Board approval: Drainage, Landscaping/Streetscapes/Water Feature, Shared Parking, Parks, Historic Preservation, and other Public Infrastructure Improvements.

Councilmember Ramos moved to forward said item to the full Council for consideration. Councilmember Cibrian seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Presentation and action on the Neighborhood Stabilization Program
Presented by Andrew Cameron, Director, Grants Monitoring & Administration

Andrew Cameron requested authorization to submit a Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) application to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for \$8.6 million and to amend the HUD-approved Annual Plan to include the strategies and funding of the NSP.

Councilmember Cibrian requested that staff explore replicating the Program implemented in District 6 by Chairperson Herrera City-wide. She also requested a timeframe on how NSP issues would be addressed and a listing of additional support required to successfully implement the Program.

Councilmember Cisneros moved to forward said item to the full Council for consideration. Councilmember Cibrian seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Presentation on Household Hazardous Waste Program
Presented by David W. McCary, Director, Solid Waste Management Department

Said item rescheduled to be addressed at the next Meeting.

6. Presentation on Technology Improvements at the Library Department
Presented by Ramiro Salazar, Director, Library Department

Said item rescheduled to be addressed at the next Meeting.

7. Consideration of items for future meetings

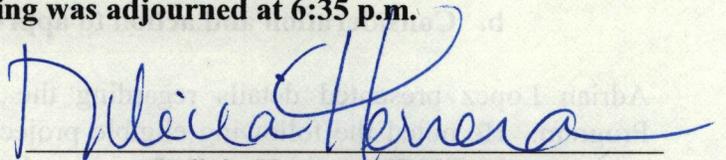
a. Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 9, 2008

8. Citizens to be Heard

Faris Hodge, Jr. recommended that the temporary staff member of Councilmember Ramos be hired on a permanent basis. Councilmember Ramos stated that said staff member was hired as a permanent employee last week. Mr. Hodge also spoke in opposition to the Mission Drive-In Tax Increment Financing Program.

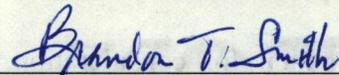
9. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.



Delicia Herrera, Chairperson

Respectfully Submitted,



Brandon T. Smith
Office of the City Clerk