

Quality of Life Council Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

10:00 AM

Media Briefing Room

Members Present: Councilmember Jennifer V. Ramos, Chair, *District 3*
Councilmember Mary Alice Cisneros, *District 1*
Councilmember Ivy Taylor, *District 2*
Councilmember David Medina, *District 5*

Members Absent: *None*

Staff Present: Frances Gonzalez, *Assistant City Manager*; T.C. Broadnax, *Assistant City Manager*; Leticia Vacek, *City Clerk*; David McCary, *Solid Waste Management Director*; Dennis Campa, *Community Initiatives Director*; David Garza, *Housing & Neighborhood Services Director*; Liz Garcia, *Housing & Neighborhood Services Assistant Director*; Charles Pruski, *Metro Health Assistant Director*; Joe Nino, *Deputy City Attorney*; Chris Hebner, *Assistant City Attorney*; Shreya Shah, *Assistant City Attorney*; Clarissa Lopez, *Assistant City Attorney*; Savita Rai, *Assistant City Attorney*; Edward Guzman, *Assistant City Attorney*; Susan Guinn, *Assistant City Attorney*; Brandon Smith, *Office of the City Clerk*

Also Present: Councilmember Ray Lopez, *District 6*; Douglas French, *MCS*; Chrisan Bove, *KTSA-AM*; Sally Cody, *SAISD*; Bob Dugas, *Goodwill*; Rebecca Brune, *Goodwill*; Lissa Martinez, *Basura Bash*; Jenny Arredondo, *South San ISD*; Nancy May, *East Central ISD*; Thomas Wherry, *Northside ISD*; Pam Ruffin, *Northside ISD*; Shelly Sheppard, *Harlandale ISD*; Janice Phelps, *Edgewood ISD*; Carol Morgan, *ESC-20*; Nancy Hart, *Family Services Association*; Becky Cervantes, *AVANCE-San Antonio*

Call to order

1. Citizens to be Heard

There were no citizens to be heard.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Quality of Life Council Committee Meeting on September 8, 2009

Councilmember Cisneros moved to approve the Minutes of the September 8, 2009 Quality of Life Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Consideration of applicants for the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC)

Presented by Leticia M. Vacek, City Clerk

Leticia Vacek reported that there were nine candidates for reappointment to the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) and recommended the following individuals for appointment:

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|----------------------------|-----------------|
| ✓ Albert Carrisalez | ✓ Ignacio Perez |
| ✓ Christina Casatano-Perez | ✓ Oscar Ramirez |
| ✓ Christine Drennon | ✓ Nancy Rocha |
| ✓ Jennifer Gonzalez | ✓ Steven Sano |
| ✓ Dominique Halaby | |

Councilmember Cisneros moved to recommend said candidates for reappointment to the CDAC to the full Council for consideration. Councilmember Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

In response to Chairperson Ramos, Patrick Howard informed the Committee that said candidates were unavailable because they were currently convened in a CDAC Meeting. He clarified that the candidates represented eleven interest groups and were instrumental in identifying reinvestment plan areas.

4. Scrap Tire Ordinance

Presented by David Garza, Director, Housing & Neighborhood Services Department

David Garza reported that abandoned tires posed a serious fire hazard and were a threat to public safety. He noted that they also placed a significant financial burden on the City of San Antonio. He stated that the proposed ordinance would establish regulations and procedures for the safe transportation, appropriate storage, accurate record keeping, and proper disposal of used or scrap tires.

Lisa Martinez, Basura Bash Volunteer, addressed the Committee regarding the public nuisance caused by the illegal dumping of abandoned tires and spoke in support of the proposed ordinance.

Councilmember Medina expressed concern regarding the health risks associated with the illegal displacement of abandoned tires and stated that the proposed ordinance could provide an opportunity for economic development.

Councilmember Medina asked of the City's involvement in the Basura Bash. Ms. Martinez stated that the City of San Antonio had sponsored the Basura Bash for 16 years and provided trucks and equipment for the retrieval and proper placement of the abandoned tires. Councilmember Medina requested that staff track the tires retrieved. He stated that he had observed a dangerously overloaded truck transporting scrap tires during late evening hours and asked if a limitation on the transport of scrap tires could be imposed.

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

Councilmember Taylor asked of the percentage of tires recycled and of an incentive program targeting the private sector. David McCary responded that the City attempted to recycle 100% of abandoned tires collected and informed the Committee that the tires were used for land cover and as a renewable fuel source. In response to Councilmember Taylor, he affirmed that staff would pursue conversations with the private sector regarding recycling incentives.

Councilmember Cisneros requested that additional information on recycling be included in the education component of the proposed ordinance.

5. Donation Container Ordinance

Presented by David Garza, Director, Housing & Neighborhood Services Department

David Garza reported that the proposed amendment would regulate and permit donation containers that are placed in open spaces such as parking lots. He noted that large amounts of donated materials have become an illegal dumping issue. He added that there were approximately 300 donation containers in different areas of San Antonio.

Councilmember Cisneros stated that the community should be encouraged to donate to non-profit organizations and not condone the illegal dumping that takes place outside of the donation containers. She asked of the notification process regarding the proposed amendment. Mr. Garza stated that staff would notify all entities and businesses via the postal service and the Department television show.

Councilmember Taylor expressed concern that the proposed amendment would penalize non-profit organizations and not the individuals illegally dumping around the donation containers. She asked if the fees and penalties would change the behavior of the offenders or place a burden on the non-profit organizations.

T.C. Broadnax explained that as part of the signage requirement there would be signage stating not to leave items if the container was full. He noted that the proposed amendment would provide a process where the owner of the container could be notified to maintain the area.

In response to Councilmember Medina, Mr. Broadnax clarified that both the property owner and the owner of the donation container were the responsible parties, ultimately the property owner.

In response to Chairperson Ramos, Mr. Broadnax clarified that the proposed amendment would allow two donation containers per organization per site and that property owners could allow a maximum of four containers per site. It was stated that the \$48.00 fee was applied for each container.

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

6. Head Start Refunding Application

Presented by Dennis Campa, Director, Community Initiatives

Nancy Hart, Family Services Association; and Becky Cervantes, AVANCE-San Antonio; and Carol Morgan, ESC-20 addressed the Committee and reported that they were pleased to partner with the Head Start Program and that City Staff had been helpful with the transition and start-up.

They stated that as of August 24, 2009 the children were in quality classrooms with professional educators.

Councilmember Lopez acknowledged the vacancies on the Head Start Policy Council and asked the Committee to encourage good candidates to serve. He cited the importance of an effective Policy Council to build a strong Head Start Program.

Chairperson Ramos asked of the employee placement of Parent Child Incorporated (PCI) Staff. Dennis Campa stated that over 50% of PCI Employees had been placed in the new Head Start structure.

Mr. Campa requested Committee approval to forward the following items for Council consideration:

- ❖ Ratification of a revised Head Start Refunding Application
- ❖ Contract amendments with Head Start contractors
- ❖ Submission of an application and upon award, acceptance of a Head Start Program Continuation Grant from Health and Human Services (HHS)

Councilmember Cisneros spoke in support of Dual Language efforts and encouraged the creation of a strong Head Start Policy Council.

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

7. Proposed Revision of City Code to Establish a Fee for School Food Establishments
Presented by Dr. Fernando Guerra, Director, San Antonio Metropolitan Health District

Charles Pruski reported that Metro Health's Food and Environmental Health Division performed approximately 1,000 inspections per year at public schools. He stated that Independent School Districts (ISDs) were not charged permit fees and that private and parochial schools were assessed fees in accordance with the City Code.

Mr. Pruski recommended that a fee of \$215.00 per year per school be established to recapture the basic cost for providing the service and that private and parochial schools be included. He asked that the new fee be implemented on October 1, 2010 to allow school districts time to budget for the additional cost.

Councilmember Cisneros moved to forward said item, as recommended by staff, to the full Council for consideration. Councilmember Medina seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

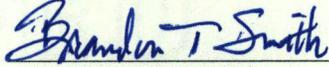
8. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:54 a.m.



Jennifer V. Ramos, Chairperson

Respectfully Submitted,



Brandon T. Smith

Office of the City Clerk