

QUALITY OF LIFE COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2013

10:00 A.M.

MEDIA BRIEFING ROOM, CITY HALL

Members Present: Councilmember Ivy R. Taylor, Chair, *District 2*
Councilmember Diego Bernal, *District 1*
Councilmember David Medina, Jr., *District 5*
Councilmember W. Reed Williams, *District 8*

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Erik Walsh, *Deputy City Manager*; David Ellison, *Assistant City Manager*; Denise Monday, *Assistant City Attorney*; Richard Keith, *Interim Assistant Director, Human Services*; Melody Woosley, *Interim Director, Human Services*; John Dugan, *Director, Planning and Community Development*; Patrick Howard, *Assistant Director, Planning and Community Development*; Xavier Urrutia, *Director, Parks and Recreation*; Nikki Ramos, *Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation*; Michael Baldwin, *Parks and Recreation*; Debbie Sittre, *Assistant Director, Capital Improvements Management Services*; Denice Trevino, *Office of the City Clerk*

Also Present: Janice Darling, *Executive Director, Animal Defense League*

Call to order

Chairwoman Taylor called the meeting to order.

1. Citizens To Be Heard

There were no items addressed by Citizens.

2. Approval of Minutes of the April 16, 2013 Quality of Life Council Committee Meeting

Councilmember Williams moved to approve the Minutes of the April 16, 2013 Quality of Life Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Bernal seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

3. Briefing and Possible Action on City-wide Fitness Initiative [Presented by Xavier Urrutia, Director, Parks and Recreation, Gloria Hurtado, Assistant City Manager]

Michael Baldwin, Parks and Recreation briefed the Committee on the Fit Pass SA Program (Program). He stated that the Program, which is a city-wide initiative, was designed to raise awareness of new and existing free and low cost fitness and wellness opportunities in San Antonio. It encourages citizens to make physical activity a permanent part of their lifestyle. He indicated that the Fit Pass SA is modeled after the scavenger hunt concept and designed to

stimulate and maintain interest in activities around the City that improve overall wellness, including physical fitness and nutrition. He stated that the Fit Pass SA Concept was developed by a Committee of stakeholders including the Mayor's Fitness Council, San Antonio Parks and Recreation, Metro Health, San Antonio Sports, HEB, YMCA, and San Antonio Independent School District who met in January 2013. He stated that the Program involves the use of a Fit Pass SA Activity Passport (Passport) whereby participants acquire stamps, which have a point value, for participation in designated events. He indicated that events, such as those endorsed by the Mayor's Fitness Council, would be added as the Program runs its course. He added that prizes would be awarded to participants that earn a designated level of points, as well as top point earners. He noted that the Fit Pass SA Activity Passport contains a listing of eligible events and points assigned to each along with the rules, a designated space for stamps, and a QR Code associated with the link to the Fit City SA Website. He stated that Passport events would be made up of fitness, wellness, or nutrition components. He stated that a Fit City SA Booth or Promotional Kiosk would be stationed at designated events where patrons could have their Passports stamped. He stated that the Passports would be distributed at the launch of the Program, throughout the duration of the Program, and would be available online. He added that two marketing agencies would be used in the development and promotion of said Program.

He indicated that the Program would be launched on June 15, 2013 coinciding with the opening of City Pools and would conclude in March 2014 with a big event to be held at Siclovía. He stated that in association with the Program, a free one-day, city-wide fitness event called "Get Out and Play SA" would be developed.

Councilmember D. Medina suggested that senior friendly options and testimonials be provided to encourage citizen participation. Mr. Urrutia indicated that many entry level fitness opportunities have been incorporated into the Program and said suggestion would be incorporated into the Program. He added that it would be some time before the effectiveness of the Program could be measured.

Councilmember Williams asked if the Spark Park Program had been incorporated into said Program. Mr. Urrutia replied that it had not but would be.

Councilmember Bernal asked if the Passport could be downloaded as a PDF. Mr. Baldwin indicated that it could. Councilmember Bernal noted that it appeared that the Program was custom-designed to be an application. Mr. Baldwin replied that said Program was near completion as an application. Councilmember Bernal suggested converting said Program into an application.

No action was taken on said item.

4. Briefing and possible action on Brackenridge Operation and Facility Agreement and Animal Kennels Funding Agreement [Presented by Kathy Davis, Director, Animal Care Services; Erik Walsh, Deputy City Manager]

Erik Walsh stated that Animal Care Services (ACS), had revised its Strategic Plan in September of 2011 involving operations of the Brackenridge Shelter, the Spay/Neuter Clinic, and the Animal Kennel Project. He indicated that as a result, ACS has raised its Live Release rate from 31% in FY 2011, to 61% in FY 2012. He stated that the Strategic Plan focuses on three key strategies: 1) Enhanced enforcement of existing laws and codes; 2) Controlling the stray pet population; and 3) Increasing the City of San Antonio's (COSA's) Live Release Rate. He noted

that since FY 2011, ACS has formalized hundreds of partnerships and more than doubled its Live Release Rate.

He reported that the City Council approved construction of a new ACS Facility (Facility) near Brackenridge Park in FY 2010 at a cost of \$5.4 million which includes an adoption center, outdoor pavilion, and spay/neuter clinic. He stated that the City of San Antonio (COSA) received a donation of \$1 million from the Petco Corporation and Foundation in exchange for naming the facility after Paul Jolly, Petco Foundation Executive. He stated that construction began in September 2012 and is scheduled for completion in October 2013. He indicated that ACS recommended outsourcing facility operations to a Strategic Partner, which would create a cost avoidance of \$2 million annually for the COSA. He reported that the COSA released an RFP (Request for Proposals) in December 2012 seeking a new partnership for the operation and management of the facility. He noted that the RFP closed in January 2013 with one joint submission received from San Antonio Pets Alive! (SAPA!) and Petshotz, Inc. He indicated that the submission met the minimum requirements set forth in the RFP and was reviewed by a committee comprised of representatives from the City Manager's Office, ACS, ACS Advisory Board, Building and Equipment Services, Capital Management Improvements Services, Information Technology Services, and the Center City Development Office. He stated that two proposed contracts would be established; one with SAPA! for the adoption center and pavilion; and one with Petshotz, Inc. for the spay/neuter clinic. He noted that the length of the proposed contracts were for three years with five two-year term extensions available. He reviewed the history of SAPA! and Petshotz, Inc., the terms, conditions, and reporting requirements of said contracts. He stated that SAPA! and Petshotz, Inc. would provide quarterly reports on the operations and activities of said facility for the duration of the three-year term.

Mr. Walsh stated that the Animal Kennels' Funding Agreement was prompted by a 2012 Bond Program whereby the Citizen Bond Committee and the City Council allocated \$2.2 million to increase the City's housing capacity for stray animals. He noted that COSA released an RFP in February 2013 for the design and construction of a kennel facility (Kennel) on the Respondent's owned/leased property. He stated that the proposed contract requires the respondent to operate the facility at no expense to COSA for a term of 25 years. He indicated that at the end of said term, the Kennel would be returned to the respective respondent. He stated that one submission was received from the Animal Defense League (ADL) and was reviewed by a selection committee consisting of a Representative of ACS, Animal Care Services Advisory Board, CIMS, Finance, and the City Manager's Office. He reviewed the history of the ADL and the terms, conditions, and reporting requirements of said contract. He noted that in addition to the contract, COSA will enter into a lease agreement with ADL for lease of said property. He noted that at the end of the contract term, COSA would sublease said property back to ADL for use under the City's own Kennel Standards. He indicated that COSA would retain responsibility for maintenance of said Kennel and revenue generated by adoption fees and spay/neuter services would be used to offset maintenance costs. At the end of the 25-year period said facility would be returned to the selected respondent. He stated that staff recommends that COSA enter into a 25-year contract with ADL to utilize Bond Funding in the amount of \$2.2 million for the design, construction, and operation of Kennel Facility. He stated that staff recommends that said items be brought before the full City Council next week for approval.

Councilmember Williams asked if COSA would place a lien on said property during the contract term. Mr. Walsh replied no but indicated that if said contract were terminated; COSA would retain rights to the building and a formula would be utilized to determine the amount owed to the COSA by the respondent. Councilmember Williams expressed concern that only one bid was

received for each of the three contracts. He inquired of other interested parties. Mr. Walsh stated that staff were equally concerned and noted that the Humane Society indicated that they were not in a position to submit a bid due to the timing of the RFP. Councilmember Williams asked if said Kennel would be staffed by City employees. Mr. Walsh stated that it would not.

Councilmember Williams moved to forward said items to the full City Council at their next meeting on May 30, 2013. Councilmember D. Medina seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

5. Briefing on Asset-Based Community Development and 1115 Medicaid Waiver
[Presented by Thomas Schlenker, Director, Metropolitan Health District; Gloria Hurtado, Assistant City Manager]

Thomas Schlenker, M.D., M.P.H. stated the goals of the 1115 Medicaid Waiver Project were consistent with the Strategic Plan of the Metropolitan Health District. Ms. Rutherford-Stuart presented an update on the 1115 Waiver Project and the Asset Based Community Development Model in Neighborhood Projects. She noted that the City Council had authorized the Metropolitan Health District (Metro Health) to participate in the Medicaid 1115 Waiver Project on January 31, 2013. She stated that six projects, as part of the Regional Healthcare Partnership Region 6 Plan (Plan), were submitted to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC). She stated that following HHSC review; the Plan was submitted to the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on March 28, 2013 and is currently under review. She noted that upon approval, Federal Funds in the amount of \$43 million would be transferred to Metro Health. She added that CMS would approve most projects no later than May 2013. She indicated that pending approval, funds in the amount of \$1.5 million would be transferred to support the submission and initiation of said projects.

Chairwoman Taylor asked of the length of the projects. Ms. Rutherford-Stuart replied that the projects were five years in length. She indicated that currently, the projects were in their second year in which planning is accomplished and would be implemented over the next three years. Chairwoman Taylor asked of community engagement. Ms. Rutherford-Stuart replied that community engagement would vary for each project.

David Ellison reviewed the five-year objectives. He noted that the Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) Methodology was selected to provide strategic direction for Metro Health's Neighborhoods Engaged in Health Initiative. He stated that the goal was to identify 10 neighborhoods by 2015. He reviewed Community Engagement and Ownership and the social determinants of health. He indicated that selection criteria would be developed to target areas based on evidence-based research. He stated that said criteria would ensure that areas of health and socioeconomic disparities would be given high priority. He indicated that each neighborhood target area would be an average of two square miles in size.

Councilmember Williams asked if any of the projects were unique and would delay the approval process. Ms. Rutherford replied that all of the projects were distinctive. Councilmember Williams cautioned against re-creating a process already in place.

Councilmember Bernal expressed concern that the selection of the target areas would be restricted to locations inside Loop 410. Mr. Ellison stated that clusters were identified and used individually. He noted that indicators overlapped on the Eastside, South, and Southwest and created clusters in those areas.

Councilmember Bernal moved to continue said briefing at the next Committee meeting on June 18, 2013 and to amend the budget as proposed. Councilmember D. Medina seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

6. Briefing and Possible Action on CDBG Reprogramming [Presented by John Dugan, Director, Planning; David Ellison, Assistant City Manager]

John Dugan stated that on June 21, 2012, City Council approved \$257,192 in FY 2013 CDBG funds to install railroad crossing safety improvements along 12 railroad crossings in District 1 to establish a Quiet Zone. He indicated that the initial estimated cost for said improvements was \$350,000. He stated that only \$257,192 was available in the CDBG Budget and noted that construction work has begun on said improvements. He stated that in order to complete said improvements, funds in the amount of \$93,000 must be reprogrammed to avoid changes to the limits of said quiet zone and to avoid noise impacts to a section of the community. He stated that the Office of Grants Monitoring and Administration has identified available CDBG uncommitted funds comprised of remaining balances of multiple completed CDBG activities.

Councilmember Williams moved to recommend the FY 2013 CDBG Reprogramming Action to the full City Council for consideration. Councilmember D. Medina seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



*Denice Trevino
Office of the City Clerk*



Ivy R. Taylor, Chair