

Economic & Community Development Council Committee Minutes

Thursday, April 24, 2008
9:00 AM

City Hall Basement Conference Room

Members Present: Councilmember Mary Alice Cisneros, *Chair, District 1*
Councilmember Lourdes Galvan, *District 5*
Councilmember Louis Rowe, *District 9*

Members Absent: Councilmember Sheila McNeil, *District 2*

Staff Present: Pat DiGiovanni, *Deputy City Manager*; Robert Peche, *Economic Development Director*; Beth Costello, *International Affairs Director*; Robert Murdock, *Military Affairs Director*; Ed Davis, *Economic Development Assistant Director*; Reynaldo Cano, *International Affairs Assistant Director*; James Henderson, *Military Affairs Deputy Director*; Ray Rodriguez, *Assistant City Attorney*; Camila Kunau, *Assistant City Attorney*; Brandon Smith, *Office of the City Clerk*

Also Present: York Duncan, *Texas Research Park*; April De Leon-Galloway

Call to Order

Chairperson Cisneros called the meeting to order.

1. Citizens to be Heard

There were no citizens to be heard.

2. Approval of Minutes of the March 14, 2008 Economic and Community Development Committee Meeting

Councilmember Rowe moved to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2008 Economic & Community Development Committee Meeting. Councilmember Galvan seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

3. An agreement with the Texas Bio and Agro-Defense Consortium for \$100,000 and an update on the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF) Project

Presented by Robert Peche, Director, Economic Development Department

York Duncan informed the Committee that the proposed National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility Project would be constructed 10 miles south of the Recharge Zone at the Texas Research Park. He noted that that proposed site was 10 miles west of the City's Extra Territorial Jurisdiction. He added that there was a non-annexation agreement that required all construction to be regulated by the City and fire protection by the San Antonio Fire Department. Pat DiGiovanni acknowledged the competition for the proposed project from other states and noted that the City has pledged \$10 million toward the project, along with the State pledge of \$13 million. Robert Peche reported that the proposed project could have a \$6 billion impact over the first decade. He added that staff recommended appropriating \$10 million toward the project if awarded.

Mr. Peche requested \$100,000 be awarded to the Texas Bio and Agro-Defense Consortium (TBAC) to continue negotiations for the NBAF Project.

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

4. Office of Military Affairs Staff Briefing: Growth Management Plan and Joint Land Use Study
Presented by Robert Murdock, Director, Office of Military Affairs

Robert Murdock reported that the DeLuzio Group has begun assisting in the development of a Growth Management Plan. He noted that the Group had conducted meetings with the MTTF Committees and prepared for the first Town Hall Meeting at the St. Paul Church near Fort Sam Houston on April 29, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss neighborhood revitalization. Mr. Murdock stated that the DeLuzio Group was on schedule to complete the Study in September 2008. The Committee directed Mr. Murdock to notify the Council of any Public Hearing dates.

Mr. Murdock also reported that a Request For Proposals had been submitted for the Joint Land Use Study on April 1, 2008. He noted that the evaluation process would take place in early May 2008 to determine a contractor to recommend to the full Council on June 12, 2008. He added that the contractor would begin working with the Joint Land Use Committee and Executive Committee on July 1, 2008.

5. International Affairs Staff Briefing
Presented by Beth Costello, Director, International Affairs Department

Beth Costello reported that Councilmembers Cortez and Galvan led a delegation to Mexico City to sign a non-binding cooperative agreement between Port San Antonio and Port Lazaro Cardenas on the exchange of information, promotion, and development of the logistics corridors between the two ports.

Ms. Costello also reported that Councilmember Cisneros led a delegation to explore Biotech opportunities in Tokyo, and while in Tokyo, the delegates attended the 400th Anniversary Celebration of Kumamoto Castle. She noted that the delegation also met with companies expanding into U.S. Markets

Ms. Costello presented a brief overview of the SA-Mexico Marketing Strategy. Mayor Hardberger named Henry Cisneros and Judge Nelson Wolff as Co-Chairs to lead a group of leaders to reinvigorate the City's presence in Mexico. She noted that the San Antonio Marketing Strategy (throughout Mexico) would follow the mission.

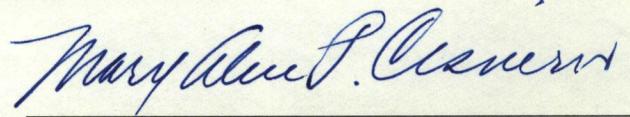
Ms. Costello presented information on the Automotive Super Cluster, our region's existing original equipment manufacturers from northern Mexico to Arlington, Texas, formalized by Bexar County and the International Affairs Department. She noted that the purpose of this effort was to work as a region to be more competitive in the global market.

6. Consideration of items for future meetings

There were no items addressed.

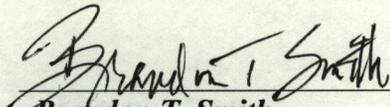
7. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 10:19 a.m.



Mary Alice Cisneros, Chairperson

Respectfully Submitted,



Brandon T. Smith
Office of the City Clerk

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