

Quality of Life Council Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 11, 2010

10:00 AM

Media Briefing Room

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

Members Absent: *None*

Staff Present: T.C. Broadnax, *Assistant City Manager*; Peter Zanoni, *Assistant City Manager*; Sharon De La Garza, *Assistant City Manager*; David McCary, *Solid Waste Management Director*; Xavier Urrutia, *Parks & Recreation Director*; Cindy Schoenmakers, *Community Initiatives Interim Director*; Edward Benavides, *Parks & Recreation Assistant Director*; Jed Maebius, *Office of the Mayor*; Shreya Shah, *Assistant City Attorney*; Brandon Smith, *Office of the City Clerk*

Also Present: Mary Ann Veltri-Stumberg, *Joint Elderly Affairs Commission*; David Frost, *Joint Elderly Affairs Commission*; Doris Griffin, Sr. *Transp. Co*; Nancy Truacta, *Bexar County*

Call to order

1. Citizens to be Heard

William White, Animal Care Services Advisory Board (ACSAB) Chair, spoke on behalf of the ACSAB in support of taking measures to remove stray animals from the streets and providing opportunities for adoption and rescue. He requested that funds not used to build new facilities at the ACS Shelter be made available to the approved Adoption Center and Spay/Neuter Clinic at Brackenridge. He stated that redirecting funds to the Brackenridge Project would mitigate the need for euthanasia and that the Spay/Neuter Clinic would provide a more permanent solution.

Sally Scott, ACSAB, stated that planning the ACS Community Center was critical to the "No Kill" Goal and that the floor plan for the proposed project is smaller than other ACS Centers around the nation. She requested confirmation that 4.55 acres of land across from the San Antonio Zoo had been allocated to the Animal Care Services Department for the construction of an off-site community outreach center. Chairperson Ramos replied that she would have confirmation of the property allocation by Thursday, and would provide the information.

2. Approval of the Minutes for the April 13, 2010 Quality of Life Council Committee Meeting

Councilmember Medina moved to approve the Minutes of the April 13, 2010 Quality of Life Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Briefing and possible action on the recycling program at Woodlawn Park and analysis to expand the program to all City Parks and Trailheads
Presented by Xavier Urrutia, Director, Parks & Recreation Department

Xavier Urrutia reported that contamination of recyclables was the most significant issue identified during the pilot program. He stated that contamination occurred when food, food-related waste and garbage was placed in the recycling receptacles. He noted that adjustments and improvements were made to the pilot program in an effort to reduce contamination and indicated that contamination rates had decreased from 100% to 45%. He added that staff was exploring the installation of Big Belly trash receptacles at three additional parks at a cost of \$146,255.

Mr. Urrutia stated that staff's recommendation was to continue the pilot program for an additional six months and that potential plans for expansion would be considered as part of the FY 2011 Budget Development Process.

Chairperson Ramos asked of the cost of the receptacles. Mr. Urrutia replied that the pilot program budget was \$28,000 and that the cost of the receptacles was \$20,000. He noted that enclosures, signage, and outreach were provided with the remainder of the budget.

Chairperson Ramos spoke in support of expanding the program and requested that the program be included in the Linear Creekway and Trailheads Projects.

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

4. Briefing and possible action on the Senior Transportation Program
Presented by Mary Ann Veltri-Stumberg, Chair, Joint Elderly Affairs Commission

Mary Ann Veltri-Stumberg presented information on the Senior Transportation Deficit in Bexar County and stated that senior transportation was a national issue requiring local solutions. She reported that approximately 16% of Bexar County Seniors consistently faced a transportation deficit and that 30% experienced some level of transportation deficit.

David Frost reported that the senior population in Bexar County will double over the next twenty years and that a multifaceted, coordinated approach was needed to address the senior transportation issue. Mr. Frost requested that the Senior Transportation Plan for Bexar County be presented to the City Council for acceptance and that the Committee on Senior Transportation be recognized as the entity for continued planning throughout the San Antonio area.

Ms. Veltri-Stumberg informed the Committee that most of the city was served by a Co-op except for the Southwest Quadrant that included Districts 1 and 5. She indicated that the Welmed Foundation had offered \$20,000 in matching funds, in addition to office space, to house the Southwest Co-op at the Elvira Cisneros Senior Community Center to provide senior transportation to that area.

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

5. Briefing and possible action on Head Start Program

Presented by Cindy Schoenmakers, Interim Director, Department of Community Initiatives

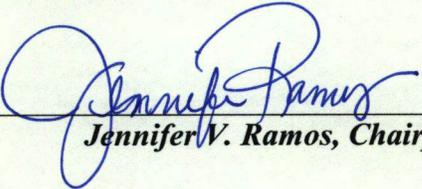
Cindy Schoenmakers requested approval of nine policies and procedures in the areas of: Fiscal Services; Program Monitoring; and Health Services. She stated that new and revised policies and procedures required approval by the Policy Council and the Quality of Life Committee. She noted that additional policies and procedures may be required as identified by program needs or directed by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Ms. Schoenmakers also reported that the Head Start Program was at 100% capacity with 201 children with disabilities served. She stated that the average daily attendance was 88% and that 868 children received transportation.

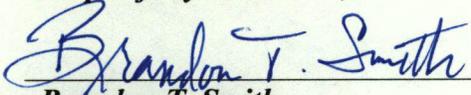
Ms. Schoenmakers informed the Committee that the Federal Review began on May 3, 2010 and would continue through May 14, 2010. She stated that two Quality of Life Committee Members had been interviewed and provided a brief overview of preliminary areas of concerns and program strengths.

6. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.



Jennifer V. Ramos, Chairperson

Respectfully Submitted,


Brandon T. Smith
Office of the City Clerk