

Economic & Community Development Council Committee

Minutes

Friday March 14, 2008

10:00 AM

City Hall Basement Conference Room

Members Present: Councilmember Mary Alice Cisneros, *Chair, District 1*
Councilmember Sheila McNeil, *District 2*
Councilmember Lourdes Galvan, *District 5*
Councilmember Louis Rowe, *District 9*

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Pat DiGiovanni, *Deputy City Manager*; Robert Peche, *Economic Development Director*; Paula Stallcup, *Downtown Operations Director*; Beth Costello, *International Affairs Director*; Leticia Vacek, *City Clerk*; Reynaldo Cano, *International Affairs Assistant Director*; Cindy Schoenmakers, *Community Initiatives Assistant Director*; Leslie Haby, *Assistant City Attorney*; Trey Jacobson, *Mayor's Office*; Ray Rodriguez, *Assistant City Attorney*; Camila Kunau, *Assistant City Attorney*; Brandon Smith, *Office of the City Clerk*

Also Present: Norma Little, *Leal & Carter PC*

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 November 28, 2007 Economic and Community Development Committee Meeting

Councilmember Rowe moved to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2007 Economic & Community Development Committee Meeting. Councilmember Galvan seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously

3. Consideration of possible board appointment recommendations for the Riverwalk Capital Improvements Advisory Committee (3 slots)

Presented by Leticia M. Vacek, City Clerk

It was the consensus of the Committee to reappoint William R. Grinnan (Riverbend Lessee), Joan Korte (Downtown Resident/Not a lessee), and Ray Halani (Downtown Business Owner/Not a lessee) to the Riverwalk Capital Improvements Advisory Board.

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

4. Consideration and possible action regarding the dissolution of the South Fort Sam Houston Development Advisory Board and creating the Fort Sam Houston Community Advisory Board, as requested by Councilmember Sheila McNeil

Presented by Leticia M. Vacek, City Clerk

Councilmember McNeil stated that the proposed board would advise the City Council regarding BRAC changes to the community. She noted that upon completion of the BRAC Project, San Antonio will be the home of the largest Medical Training Institute (Ft. Sam Houston) in the world.

Leticia Vacek explained that upon dissolution of the proposed board and the creation of the newly proposed board by Council approval, the board positions would be advertised and the dissolved board members would be notified that they would be eligible to apply for the Fort Sam Houston Community Advisory Board.

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

5. Renewal of the Annual Interlocal Agreement with the Alamo Community College District (ACCD) regarding the administration of proceeds encumbered under the Settlement Agreement Between the two Parties

Presented by Robert Peche, Director, Economic Development Department

Robert Peche provided an overview of the Education and Training Programs that were yielded from the Interlocal Agreement. It was the consensus of the Committee to receive an update on the number of people reached on a comprehensive level, and on the impact on workforce development on a community-wide basis.

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

6. Requesting authorization to transfer \$823,758 in the General Fund to the Economic Development Incentive Fund (EDIF)

Presented by Robert Peche, Director, Economic Development Department

Mr. Peche requested that the Committee recommend the transfer of \$522,512 to the Economic Development Incentive Fund (EDIF) from the Oberthur Funds, a \$30,000 grant to INCELL, and \$400,000 grant to Hill Bakery to the full Council for approval. Chairperson Cisneros directed Mr. Peche to place his recommendations for Economic Development Funding on the agenda for consideration of items for future meetings.

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

At this time, the Committee addressed item 8.

8. International Affairs Staff Briefing

Presented by Beth Costello, Director, International Affairs Department

Beth Costello provided the Committee with a list of City Council Assignments to International Cities/Countries and a packet from the U.S. Consulate on the media impact of Mayor Hardberger's Delegation to Chennai, India in February 2008 for the signing of the Sister-City Agreement.

Ms. Costello noted that the International Affairs Department conducts a yearly survey of business clients regarding the business trade consummated and/or the dollar amount realized from contacts provided by the International Affairs Department. Ms. Costello reported \$61 million in trade from 800 clients in San Antonio and Mexico.

At this time, the Committee addressed item 7.

7. Updates on the City's Federal Empowerment Zone

Presented by Robert Peche, Director, Economic Development

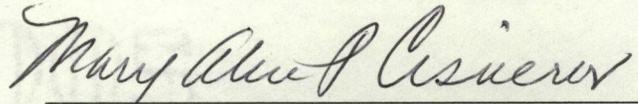
Mr. Peche presented information on the Federal Empowerment Zone (EZ) Program. He noted that San Antonio was designated as a Round III EZ Community on January 16, 2002 and that the designation would remain in effect until 2009. He added that the designated area included the inner city area that encompassed 26 census tracts and three developmental sites that include: Brooks City Base, Port of San Antonio/Toyota, and Fredericksburg Road Commercial Corridor.

9. Consideration of items for future meetings

There were no items addressed.

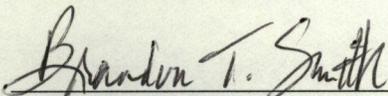
10. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.



Mary Alice Cisneros, Chairperson

Respectfully Submitted,



Brandon T. Smith
Administrative Assistant II
Office of the City Clerk