

Quality of Life Council Committee Minutes

Tuesday, December 14, 2004

8:00 a.m.

City Hall Basement Conference Room

Members Present: Council Member Carroll Schubert, District 9, Chair;
Council Member Art Hall, District 8;
Council Member Joel Williams, District 2

Absent: Council Member Roger O. Flores, District 1
Council Member Chip Haass, District 10;

Staff Present: Christopher Brady, Assistant City Manager; Chief Albert A. Ortiz, SAPD; Thomas G. Wendorf, Public Works Director; Daniel V. Cardenas, Environmental Services Director; Gary Johnson, Tax Assessor; Patricia Major, City Auditor; Milo Nitschke, Finance Director

Others in attendance: DC Rosemary Flammia, SAPD; Leslie Kassahn, City Attorney's Office; Lena Ellis, Assistant Finance Director; David Lopez, Environmental Services; Linda Wasserman, Customer Service; Jim Mery, Alamodome; Kenny Appedole, Public Works; Susan Guinn, City Attorney's Office; Virginia Quinn, Municipal Integrity; Edward Benavides, City Manager's Office; Jonathan Gordon, District 2 Staff; Brandon Smith, City Clerk's Office; Philip Harris, Finance; Charlotte Barrett, Human Resources; Kari Eustace, Convention & Visitors Bureau; Terry Kannawin, Development Services; Charles Pruski, Health; Judi Rodriguez, Asst. City Auditor; Leticia Rivera, City Manager's Office; Capt. Stanley Biedrzycki, SAPD; Anna Deosdade, SAPD; Charles Weir, City Attorney's Office; Christina Foley, District 10 Staff; Cherryl D. Shaw, TAB; Walter Jones, GSATC; Mike Barnard, Yellow Checker Cab; Capt. Mahala Ritchey, SAPD; Capt. Steve Barrera, SAPD;

I. Approval of the Minutes for the November 4, 2004 Quality of life Meeting & November 22, 2004 Subcommittee Meeting on Utilities & Franchises – Action Team

The committee members present unanimously approved the minutes of the regular meeting of November 4, 2004 and the November 22, 2004 Subcommittee Meeting on Utilities & Franchises.

II. Executive Session: Presentation regarding property acquisition Proposition 3 Edwards Aquifer Protection Venue Project – Susan Spegar, Proposition 3 – Action Team

Mr. Christopher Brady, in open session, informed the committee that an executive session was not necessary at this time. Mr. Brady reported that the acquisition of property will be funded jointly with SAWS and serves as reimbursement for property provided to the City of San Antonio that was given to Toyota for the Applewhite property. Once the SAWS Board approves an agreement, said item will be brought back before the Committee.

III. Presentation of Transportation Advisory Board recommendations related to the regulation of charter vehicles as requested by Councilman Schubert – Chief Albert A. Ortiz, San Antonio Police Department

Chief Albert Ortiz presented background on the revision of Chapter 33 of the City Code "Vehicles for Hire". Chief Ortiz spoke of the overview of regulations, the opposing view of the taxi and charter industries and the request for recommendations from the Transportation Advisory Board by the Quality of Life Council Committee.

Chief Ortiz presented new and revised definitions approved by the Transportation Advisory Board. The new and revised definitions to Chapter 33 include: 1) New definition - for Charter Services regarding pre-sold basis. 2) Definition change - removal of the word "limousine" for the pre-arranged definition. 3) New definition - for Reservation schedule. 4) New definition - for Specified group. 5) Addition - to definition Rates of Fare regarding size and type of vehicle. 6) Addition - to the Scope of Instant Article regarding a reservation schedule on board.

Chief Ortiz offered 3 options which include 1) Revise the changes and include them with all the other changes on Chapter 33 that will be going before Council by July 7 2005. 2) Approve the changes and move forward with the Council Agenda for Council action in January 2005. 3) Disapprove the changes.

Councilmember Schubert asked if any members of the taxi / charter industry would like to speak. Walter Jones, San Antonio taxi cab driver, asked the committee to move forward with the recommendations and the necessity of enforcement.

Discussion ensued regarding the problem of charter services acting as taxi services. It was stated that there are charter services acquiring permits under charter regulations and taxi services often targeting military personnel.

Further discussion ensued regarding these charter services on military bases. Chief Ortiz informed the committee that enforcement of the charter regulations are not a high priority with the military.

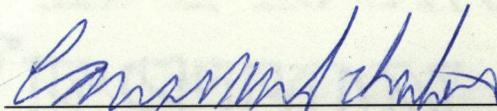
At the recommendation of the committee, staff will move forward with Option #2, which will *approve the changes and move forward to the Council Agenda for Council action in January 2005.*

IV. Cash Handling Update – Milo Nitschke, Finance Director; Lena Ellis, Assistant Finance Director, Virginia Quinn, Municipal Integrity Manager

Ms. Lena Ellis and staff provided an update to the cash handling review conducted among City departments and divisions. The update focused on the Petty Cash Administrative Directive, training, background checks and camera installation. Ms. Ellis introduced Mr. Phil Harris – Compliance Resolution Manager,

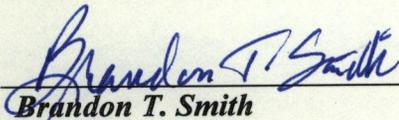
There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

(* Copies of these presentations are made part of the file and are available upon request.)



Carroll Schubert, Chairman

Respectfully Submitted,



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