

**Quality of Life
Special Council Committee Meeting
Minutes**

**Tuesday, June 3, 2008
5:30 PM
Municipal Plaza B Room**

Members Present: Councilmember Delicia Herrera, *District 6, Chair*
Councilmember Mary Alice Cisneros, *District 1*
Councilmember Jennifer Ramos, *District 3*
Councilmember Diane Cibrian, *District 8*

Staff Present: Frances Gonzalez, *Assistant City Manager*; Dennis Campa, *Community Initiatives Director*; Hollis Young, *Deputy City Attorney*; Enid Howard, *Assistant City Attorney*; Shreya Shah, *Assistant City Attorney*; Brandon Smith, *Office of the City Clerk*

Others Present: Dr. Sharon Small, *PCI*

I. Regular Business:

A. Call Meeting to Order

II. Agenda Item(s):

A. Discussion and action on Head Start Program Request for Proposal (RFP) process

Presentation by Dennis J. Campa, Director, Community Initiatives
Frances A. Gonzalez, Assistant City Manager

Dennis Campa informed the Committee that the current delegate agency, Parent Child Incorporated (PCI), had served for the past 29 years and noted that said contract had never gone through the competitive procurement process. He provided an overview of benefits of an RFP and cited the opportunity to restructure the program to reflect changes occurring nationally. At the direction of the Committee, an RFP will be issued June 10, 2008 and recommendations will be forwarded to City Council on August 7, 2008.

B. Citizens to be Heard

Elmer Williams spoke in opposition an RFP. He stated that the bulk of non-compliance issues were specific to the Department of Community Initiatives (DCI), not PCI. He expressed concerns regarding the evaluation of transition from PCI to other Delegate Agencies and the possible increase of DCI Employees to manage additional Head Start Delegate Agencies.

Charles Tate spoke in opposition to an RFP. He stated that PCI was being penalized for joint issues between DCI and PCI.

Grace Colunga stated that PCI's employee benefits were inadequate. She noted that the locations of the Head Start Centers did not address the needs of the corresponding areas.

Dr. Sharon Small spoke in opposition to an RFP and asked the Committee to consider the cost of additional Delegate Agencies. She noted that PCI provided educational benefits to their employees and added that many had received advanced degrees and certifications due to that benefit.

Toni Reyes spoke in opposition to an RFP. She stated that PCI employees would lose their Collective Bargaining Contract should the City proceed with an RFP.

Cordelia Diaz informed the Committee that the PCI Director would not acknowledge her request for a meeting after she was no longer a member of the Policy Board. She expressed concern with pay increases for PCI Administrators and pay decreases for PCI Staff.

Dan Gonzales spoke in opposition to an RFP. He stated that PCI was operating with reduced funds and that additional Delegate Agencies would not be cost effective. He noted that PCI had a good program and asked the Committee to give PCI the opportunity to prove their effectiveness.

Maria Cordova spoke in opposition to an RFP.

Raquel Gomez spoke in opposition to an RFP. She questioned why Delegate Agencies were needed if the City was trying to consolidate. She asked if the City would ensure the current level of employee benefits should they proceed with an RFP.

Pearl Gonzales spoke in opposition to an RFP. She stated that over 1,600 PCI Employees would be affected by said RFP. She noted that DCI did not implement proper checks and balances.

Michelle Cosey spoke in opposition to an RFP. She asked the Committee to allow PCI to proceed with a corrective action plan to improve current practices.

Councilmember Ramos asked if there would be a guaranty of the current level of compensation and employee benefits to those affected by the RFP. Mr. Campa replied that it depended on the Delegate(s) selected. He noted that the intention was to improve the quality of education and services to families.

Chairperson Herrera asked if any funds were returned to the Federal Government. Mr. Campa replied that PCI had returned \$8.5 million over the past four years. He noted that DCI had addressed concerns about the amounts returned and PCI improved by returning \$500,000 this year. He cited that the funds returned could have stemmed from mismanagement of the personnel budget or incomplete contracts. He added that those funds could have been used to provide a lower cost benefit package to employees.

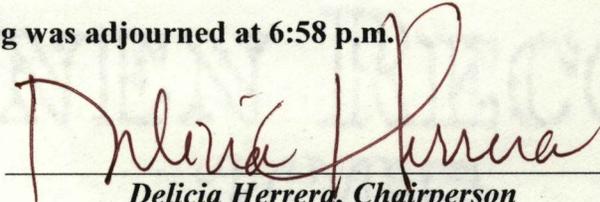
Councilmember Cibrian moved to proceed with a Head Start RFP. Councilmember Ramos seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

III. Proposed: Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting

A. Tuesday, June 10, 2008 at 3:00 p.m.

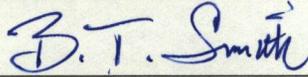
IV. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.



Delicia Herrera, Chairperson

Respectfully Submitted,



Brandon T. Smith
Office of the City Clerk