

# QUALITY OF LIFE COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2013

10:00 A.M.

MEDIA BRIEFING ROOM, CITY HALL

**Members Present:** Councilmember Elisa Chan, Chair, *District 9*  
Councilmember Diego Bernal, *District 1*  
Councilmember Shirley Gonzales, *District 5*  
Councilmember Soules, *District 10*

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**Members Absent:** Councilmember Ivy R. Taylor, *District 2*

**Staff Present:** Shreya Shah, *Assistant City Attorney*; David Ellison, *Assistant City Manager*; John Dugan, *Director, Department of Planning and Community Development*; Xavier Urrutia, *Director, Department of Parks and Recreation*; Melody Woosley, *Interim Director, Department of Human Services*; Leticia M. Vacek, *City Clerk*; Leticia Saenz, *Deputy City Clerk*; Brandon Smith, *Office of the City Clerk*; Denice Trevino, *Office of the City Clerk*

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## Call to order

Chairperson Chan called the meeting to order.

### 1. Citizens To Be Heard

There were no items addressed by Citizens.

### 2. Approval of Minutes of the June 18, 2013 Quality of Life Council Committee Meeting

Councilmember Bernal moved to approve the Minutes of the June 18, 2013 Quality of Life Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Gonzales seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

### 3. Briefing on the various Boards and Commissions that relate to the Mission of the Quality of Life City Council Committee [Presented by Leticia M. Vacek, City Clerk, TRMC/CMC]

Leticia Vacek reported that there were currently over 90 Boards and Commissions with over 800 members serving. She noted that the appointment process differs for At-Large and District Boards. She stated that At-Large Board Appointments may require an interview by a specific Council Committee whereas District Board Members were nominated by their respective Councilmember. She added that both required full City Council approval.

Mrs. Vacek indicated that those serving on the Ethics Review Board would not be eligible for service on any other board. She noted that all Board Members would be required to attend the Municipal Leadership Institute (MLI) and departments would provide a board specific orientation for members. She stated that the next Swearing-In Ceremony for newly appointed board members would be held on December 6, 2013. She reviewed the application process and noted that applications were processed by the Office of the City Clerk. She indicated that applications for District Appointments would be forwarded to the respective Council District once received. She noted that a vacancy list was submitted to the Council District Liaisons on a monthly basis. She listed the Boards and Commissions that report to the Quality of Life Council Committee.

Chairperson Chan asked if all of the Boards and Commissions listed served in an advisory capacity. Mrs. Vacek confirmed that they did. Councilmember Chan asked of the activity level of said Boards and Commissions. Mrs. Vacek reviewed the Attendance Report for each of the Boards and Commissions.

Councilmember Soules expressed concern that members of the Building Standards Board had experienced pressure regarding the volume of work required of them. He noted that the board was meeting twice a month for five to six hours at a time. David Ellison stated that he would investigate the situation.

Chairperson Chan asked of the mission of the Citizens' Environmental Advisory Committee. Mr. Ellison replied that said Committee was charged with making sustainability recommendations. He indicated that the City Manager's Office would review the mission of said board. Chairperson Chan stated that if any board or commission was not active; perhaps they could be consolidated with another board or commission or dissolved. She requested a review of all boards and commissions.

Councilmember Bernal suggested that the Chairman of each board that reports to the Quality of Life Council Committee provide an Activity Report to the Committee.

Chairperson Chan asked of the Community Action Advisory Board. Melody Woolsey stated that the board was created by the Federal Government. She noted that the board members were elected to represent the poor; four members were Councilmembers appointed by the Mayor; and four members of the community were elected by said Board.

Chairperson Chan asked of the Community Development Advisory Committee. John Dugan stated that said board was inactive and was initially charged with identifying renewal areas. He noted that said board was affiliated with the Inner City Reinvestment/Infill Policy (ICRIP) and Renew SA. He indicated that the board has not met for several years. Chairperson Chan requested that said board be evaluated and possibly dissolved.

Chairperson Chan asked of the Linear Creekway Parks Advisory Board. Xavier Urrutia noted that said board was created as a result of a specific sales tax initiative and dealt with matters related to the Greenway Program. He stated that said board could be consolidated into the Parks Board. Councilmember Soules requested that a presentation be made to include the status of said board's mission. He stated that once the mission is completed; this portion of said sales tax

could be used for Parks and Recreation Maintenance. Chairperson Chan requested that this item be placed on a future agenda for consideration.

Chairperson Chan asked of the Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women. Mrs. Vacek indicated that the mission of the Commission was to advise the City Council on Women's Issues and sponsor an annual fundraising event. Chairperson Chan asked if said commission could possibly be consolidated with SA2020's Commission on Strengthening Family Well-being and proposed that meetings be held quarterly instead of monthly in the future. Councilmember Soules indicated that said commission was still in the process of being formed.

Xavier Urrutia indicated that the mission of the Municipal Golf Association-San Antonio (MGA-SA) was to support said Association. He stated that the board consisted of private and public members and included two members appointed by the City Manager. He stated that said association operated Golf Courses and set fees. Chairperson Chan asked for the annual budget for the MGA-SA and requested that the Chair of MGA-SA appear before the Committee.

Regarding the Parks and Recreation Board, Mr. Urrutia stated that members were appointed by the City Council and served in an advisory capacity to provide oversight of its various programs. He indicated that the single most important program developed by said board was the adoption of self-monitoring standards. Councilmember Soules asked of the funding provided by Parks and Recreation for policing, programs, and facilities. Mr. Urrutia stated that he would provide that information.

Councilmember Soules asked of the membership of the San Antonio Housing Authority (SAHA). Mrs. Vacek stated that members of SAHA are appointed by the Mayor.

Chairperson Chan asked of the San Antonio Housing Trust (Trust). Mrs. Vacek noted that said Trust was a Corporation separate from the City that assisted low to moderate-income families. She stated that the Trust Members met as required. Mr. Ellison stated that the Trust started with a Corpus of \$10,000,000 and as the Trust accrued \$1,000,000 in interest; funds would be made available for use. He noted that the City has provided \$100,000 in funding for the Trust. Chairperson Chan requested a copy of the Trust's Financial Portfolio. John Dugan indicated that John Kenney of the San Antonio Housing Trust could provide an overview of the Trust's Structure.

There was no action required on Item 3.

**4. Briefing and Overview of the various Federal Grants and Programs that are regularly presented to the Quality of Life City Council Committee** [Presented by John Dugan, Director, Planning and Community Development, David Ellison, Assistant City Manager]

John Dugan provided a Federal Grant briefing to the Committee which included the Grantor, Grantor type, Grantor decision basis, Grant Program name, FY 2014 Program Budget, percent of grant, Program type, target, and city role/lead department for each Program.

Councilmember Soules requested that Mr. Dugan provide the Committee with a broader definition of ReNew SA Target Areas at a later date.

Chairperson Chan asked of the process to disseminate information on available programs to citizens. She requested that information on said Programs be displayed in a manner that would make it easier for citizens to find. Mr. Dugan stated that said information was located on the Department of Planning and Community Development's Website. Mr. Ellison noted that the City was working with SAHA and non-profit organizations to create a common portal.

Councilmember Bernal suggested that Councilmembers finish reviewing the Federal Grants and Programs and submit any questions that they might have at the next meeting.

There was no action required on Item 4.

**5. Consideration of future items:**

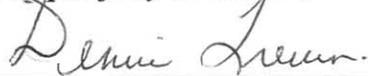
**a. Discussion of Committee Priorities, Purpose, Meeting Logistics and Related Matters**

There were no items for future meetings discussed.

**6. Adjourn**

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

*Respectfully Submitted,*



*Denice Treviño  
Office of the City Clerk*



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*Elisa Chan, Chair*