

Quality of Life Council Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 8, 2009
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*; David Garza, *Housing & Neighborhood Services Director*; Ramiro Salazar, *Library Director*; Nina Nixon-Mendez, *Grants & Monitoring Administration Interim Administrator*; Patrick Howard, *Planning & Development Services Assistant Director*; Kendra Trachta, *Library Assistant Director*; Steve Whitworth, *Assistant City Attorney*; Denise Monday, *Assistant City Attorney*; Savita Rai, *Assistant City Attorney*; Clarissa Chavarria, *Assistant City Attorney*; Brandon Smith, *Office of the City Clerk*

Also Present: Sandra Williams, *HCDC*; Rod Radle, *San Antonio Housing Corp.*; Barbara Witte Howell, *San Antonio Conservation Society*; Jose Gonzalez, *Urban Collaborative*; Dan Markson, *NRP Group*; Christel Villarreal, *CEAC*; Loretta Van Coppenolle, *CEAC*; Diane Lang, *CEAC*

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Ramos called the meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

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*

3. Citizens to be Heard

Christel Villarreal, Diane Lang, and Loretta Van Coppenolle addressed the Committee on behalf of the Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC). It was stated that the CEAC was a newly formed committee for the sole purpose of supporting the goals of the Mission Verde Plan and to serve in the following capacity:

- Make recommendations
- Serve as a conduit between the community and the City Council
- Promote programs and projects related to the Mission Verde Plan

They provided a letter to the Committee in support of the Mission Verde concept and informed the Committee that they would assist the City Council in any way possible. They requested that the City Council pass the initiative into law through ordinance.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the Quality of Life Council Committee Meeting on November 10, 2009

Councilmember Taylor moved to approve the Minutes of the November 10, 2009 Quality of Life Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Medina seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Briefing on the Community Development Strategic Plan

Presented by Patrick Howard, Assistant Director, Planning & Development Services Department

Patrick Howard presented a first-year report and update on the Strategic Plan for Community Development. He provided recommendation of the adoption of the 2009 update to include: Updated goals and benchmarks for 2009-2012; Three completed Reinvestment Plans; Selection of two new Reinvestment Plans for completion in 2010; and Policy prioritization for Community Development Indicators, Reinvestment Policy.

In response to Councilmember Medina, T.C. Broadnax indicated that staff would be meeting with the City Manager and that a finalized Reinvestment Policy would be forthcoming to the City Council for consideration in January or February, 2010.

Councilmember Cisneros requested a Community Revitalization Action Group (CRAG) map to ensure that funds were concentrated in those designated areas. She also requested that staff meet with Councilmembers regarding new Market Tax Credit Programs and stated that there were billions of dollars available through those programs.

Councilmember Taylor stated that she was hesitant in adding Reinvestment Plans and expressed concern that too many plans may impede progress. She noted that existing plans should be completed before adding new plans.

Councilmember Cisneros stated that core area projects should be addressed before the addition of new plans and requested an update on projects completed in District 1.

Mr. Howard informed the Committee that the Annual Improvement Projects Report (AIRP) was released annually and would circulate the most recent report. He indicated that the AIRP summarized priorities and identified neighborhood plans.

Councilmember Medina also requested an update on projects completed in District 5 within the past five years as well as City-wide projects.

Chairperson Ramos requested a city-wide update at a future Committee meeting.

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

6. Peddler's Ordinance

Presented by David D. Garza, Director, Housing & Neighborhood Services Department

David Garza presented staff's recommendation to amend City Code Chapter 16, Licenses and Business Regulations, Article IX, Section 17-239. He stated that the proposed amendment would: 1) Not allow peddling in a public place between the hours of 11 p.m. and 8 a.m.; 2) Not allow door-to-door peddling at private residences between the hours of 8 p.m. to 8 a.m.; and 3) Restrict the frequency of purchasing a peddler's permit to three (3) times per month.

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

Chairperson Ramos requested a quarterly update on said item.

Councilmember Cisneros requested a summary of all ordinances that would be revised by said amendment.

7. Briefing History Center Portal

Presented by Ramiro Salazar, Director, San Antonio Public Library

Ramiro Salazar reported that the City entered into a private/public partnership with the National Western Art Foundation (NWAFF) for the renovation and use of the Hertzberg Library Building to house the Briscoe National Western Art Museum. He noted that as part of the lease agreement, 5,000 square feet had been allocated for a Library's History Center Portal. He indicated that the Library's History Center Portal project was re-evaluated due to the Central Library Weatherization project cost. He added that the revised History Center Portal will feature a series of digitized, interactive exhibits and will include the following:

- Historically significant materials from the Texana Vault
- Computer online guide to research centers in San Antonio such as:
 - San Antonio Office of the City Clerk Archives Program
 - Daughters of the Republic Texas Library
 - UTSA Archives and Special Collections
 - Bexar County Clerk's Office

He indicated that the San Antonio Library Board of Trustees approved the revised concept during the October 28, 2009 Board Meeting. He stated that the size and cost of the History Center Portal had been reduced due to the use of digital resources versus physical items. He added that the Library plans to redirect the Certificates of Obligation funds to the Central Library Weatherization projects.

Kendra Trachta provided an overview of the functionality of the History Central Portal. She stated that the concept would strengthen the bond between museum and library visitors. She noted that the project would focus on digital exhibits in addition to static items available.

At this time, the Committee addressed Addendum Item 1.

ADDENDUM

1. Consideration of San Antonio's Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) Substantial Amendment to the Consolidation Plan and Annual Action Plan

Presented by Nina Nixon-Mendez, Interim Administrator, Grants & Monitoring Administration

Nina Nixon-Mendez provided information on the proposed amendments to the Neighborhood Stabilization Program that included: NSP Eligible Activities; Proposed Amendments; Program Income; 1st Mortgage Program for Multi-Family Projects; Single Family Financing; Single Family Rehabilitation & Product Delivery Costs; Budget Adjustments.

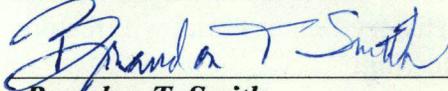
Councilmember Cisneros requested analysis on how to utilize funds for vacant and abandoned structures in blighted areas in the inner city and what census tracts were eligible under the new criteria.

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

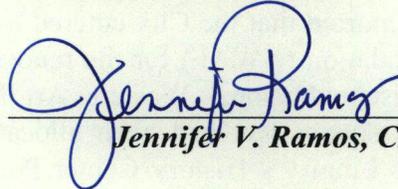
8. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 12:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Brandon T. Smith
Office of the City Clerk



Jennifer V. Ramos, Chairperson