

## Quality of Life Council Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 8, 2009

10:00 AM

Media Briefing Room

**Members Present:** Councilmember Jennifer V. Ramos, Chair, *District 3*  
Councilmember Mary Alice Cisneros, *District 1*  
Councilmember Ivy Taylor, *District 2*  
Councilmember David Medina, *District 5*

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**Members Absent:** *None*

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**Staff Present:** Frances Gonzalez, *Assistant City Manager*; T.C. Broadnax, *Assistant City Manager*; Leticia Vacek, *City Clerk*; Fernando Guerra, *Metro Health Director*; Brian Alsip, *Metro Health Assistant Director*; Liz Garcia, *Housing & Neighborhood Services Assistant Director*; Charles Pruski, *Metro Health Assistant Director*; Veronica Zertuche, *Deputy City Attorney*; Joe Nino, *Deputy City Attorney*; Chris Hebner, *Assistant City Attorney*; Edward Guzman, *Assistant City Attorney*; Clarissa Lopez, *Assistant City Attorney*; Krista Cover, *Assistant City Attorney*; Brandon Smith, *Office of the City Clerk*

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**Also Present:** Louis Terrazas, *MGA-SA*; Ricardo Villasenor, *MGA-SA*; Henry Galindo, *MGA-SA*; Reid Meyers, *MGA-SA*; Lou Miller, *MGA-SA*; David Marquez, *West End Baptist Urban Progress*

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### Call to order

#### 1. Approval of the Minutes of the Quality of Life Council Committee Meeting on May 12, 2009

Councilmember Cisneros moved to approve the Minutes of the May 12, 2009 Quality of Life Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

#### 2. Consideration of applicants for the Municipal Golf Association – SA (MGA-SA) 6 slots

Presented by Leticia M. Vacek, City Clerk

Leticia Vacek provided a letter to the Committee from Mr. Meyers and noted that it was a report from the Municipal Golf Association. She called on the applicants to address the Committee for interview.

Gabe Farias detailed his background in golf and noted his experience at San Antonio Municipal Golf Courses.

Henry Galindo stated that he was an original appointee to the Municipal Golf Association Board. He noted that he has been an Educator for 37 years and currently employed as Principal of St. Anthony Catholic High School. He acknowledged that the Board had made great progress and

indicated that he was seeking reappointment to continue serving the MGA-SA Board and the city of San Antonio.

In response to Councilmember Cisneros, Mr. Galindo stated that he had served on the MGA-SA Board for two years and confirmed that golf scholarships were available for men and women through the High School Program and the First Tee Program in Junior Golf.

Lou Miller stated that he worked in the Insurance Industry, with the African American Chamber of Commerce, and had been a MGA-SA Board Member since its inception. He noted that the MGA-SA was now profitable and able to contribute financially to the City of San Antonio. He added that he would like to continue with that continuity

In response to Councilmember Medina, Mr. Miller confirmed that the Municipal Golf Courses are affordable and have added value.

Louis Terrazas stated that he was a small business owner and served on the MGA-SA Board. He noted that had been appointed to the Finance Committee and would like to be reappointed to serve another term to complete the work started two years ago.

In response to Councilmember Cisneros, he stated that he was unsure of the Board's position regarding golf scholarships and noted that the Board could take it under consideration. Councilmember Cisneros requested that Board explore options to provide golf scholarships to the community.

Ricardo Villasenor outlined his golf experience and stated that he was grateful for the opportunity to serve on the MGA-SA Board. He cited the Board's accomplishment of having all of the municipal golf facilities open under their jurisdiction. He requested the Committee's support in reappointment to the Board. Councilmember Cisneros encouraged Mr. Villasenor to explore golf scholarship opportunities for high school men and women.

Ms. Vacek read a written statement by George Fernandez that stated that he had been on the MGA-SA Board since its inception and that he served as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair and as a member of the Construction Committee. He stated that he would like to continue to serve on the Board and keep the momentum moving in the right direction and continue the quality of play at all of the municipal golf venues. He suggested that the Quality of Life Council Committee have a future meeting at one of the municipal golf venues to experience the improvements that have been made.

Chairperson Ramos acknowledged a letter from MGA-SA Board Chairman, Reid Meyers expressing his support of the reappointment of Board members. She noted that Board member Irene Maldonado was not seeking reappointment which would leave one slot vacant.

Councilmember Cisneros moved to recommend Gabe Farias, George Fernandez, Henry Galindo, Lou Miller, Louis Terrazas, and Ricardo Villasenor to the full Council for consideration as candidates for nomination to the MGA-SA Board. Councilmember Medina seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**3. Presentation and possible action on implementation of a Rebuttable Presumption Clause to the current illegal dumping ordinance**

Presented by: David Garza, Director, Housing & Neighborhood Services Department

Items 3 and 4 addressed concurrently.

**4. Status of plan to review funding sources to support funding efforts associated with illegal dumping**

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

Liz Garcia reported that the intent of the proposed rebuttable presumption clause was to identify dumping violators by using their license plates and filing cases in Municipal Court on the registered owner of the vehicle. She noted that fees associated with illegal dumping convictions were under review to determine if alternatives could be implemented and redirected into a separate fund to subsidize the cost of illegal dumping deterrence measures.

Ms. Garcia provided as an alternative that the City Council could revise the Code to authorize enforcement against business entities and their agents; increase criminal penalty provisions from a maximum fine of \$500 to \$2000; and increase enforcement efforts.

Ms. Garcia stated that staff recommended a revision of the Ordinance to add language which would accomplish the goals sought by Councilmember Ramos to enhance enforcement and increasing penalties. Additionally, staff recommended an examination of policy to determine if any city monies collected above court costs should be applied to a separate fund to subsidize the cost of illegal dumping deterrence measures. She stated that staff would analyze special fees and report back to the Committee in 30-45 days.

In response to Councilmember Cisneros, T.C. Broadnax explained that staff would like to confer with the Budget Department to determine if there was a policy recommendation to divert and or increase funds to address illegal dumping issues.

Councilmember Medina requested a list of the top 10 dumping spots; cost to recycle and dispose of tires; and any other information related to illegal tire dumping.

Councilmember Taylor requested clarification of the proposed "enhanced enforcement". Ms. Garcia responded that staff was exploring surveillance camera options and would report back to the Committee. Councilmember Taylor asked of the language changes to the ordinance. Ms. Garcia stated that in addition to penalties, the prosecution of entities and or their agents would also be included. Mr. Broadnax stated that a copy of the revised ordinance would be provided immediately.

Chairperson Ramos clarified that the camera pilot program implemented in District 3 was at her request. She stated that she used her own funding source to provide the cameras for the program. She noted that this initiative was her motivation to request an increase in fees to implement those amenities throughout the City.

Councilmember Medina asked of the use of surveillance cameras from other entities such as schools, Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), and public utilities to monitor illegal dumping. Ms. Garcia stated that staff would explore said option and report back to the Committee.

Councilmember Cisneros moved to proceed with said item as recommended by staff. Councilmember Medina seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Chairperson Ramos gave direction to place said item on the agenda of the next Quality of Life Committee meeting.

**5. Update on preparations for H1N1 virus**

Presented by Dr. Fernando Guerra, Director, Health Department

Councilmember Cisneros stated that she was pleased that the City had received the Public Health Emergency Response Grant in the amount of \$1.6 million to support the City's efforts. She asked if it was recommended that everyone get a flu shot. Dr. Fernando Guerra responded that everyone should get a flu shot with those at highest a priority. He noted that when the H1N1 Vaccine becomes available, everyone should be vaccinated.

Councilmember Cisneros asked of a cough and sneeze etiquette message to the public. Frances Gonzalez stated that the City had material from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) that could be distributed. It was noted that there were several communication campaigns in effect. Dr. Guerra cited the bus ad campaign. Ms. Gonzalez added that more messages to the public would be available as grant funding was received.

Chairperson Ramos asked of the 14,000 flu shots available to City Employees. Dr Guerra clarified that there were 14,000 Antivirals for individuals that may have been exposed or have developed flu symptoms. He noted that the Antiviral would begin a treatment to lessen the severity and shorten the course of the illness. It was stated that the CDC had recommended not using the Antiviral for prevention; it was recommended that all receive a seasonal flu shot and the H1N1 when it becomes available.

Councilmember Cisneros asked of children who have been hospitalized with the H1N1 Virus and stated that she would like to be updated on individuals within her District.

Chairperson Ramos stated that she would like another H1N1 update at the next Committee meeting.

**6. Citizens to be Heard**

There were no citizens.

**7. Upcoming meeting and consideration of items for future meetings**

**a. Next Meeting**

- Illegal Dumping Ordinance
- H1N1 Update
- Head Start Program Update

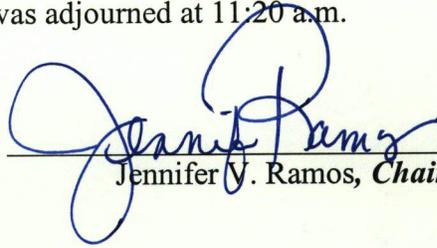
**b. Future Items**

- Community Development Advisory Committee
- Public Facility Corporation
- Metro Health Presentation on Public Schools – Food Inspection Fees

- Diabetes Update
- Library Update

### 8. Adjournment

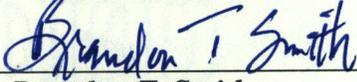
There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.



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Jennifer V. Ramos, *Chairperson*

*Respectfully Submitted,*



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*Brandon T. Smith*

*Office of the City Clerk*