

**Intergovernmental Relations  
Council Committee Meeting  
Minutes**

**Wednesday, June 11, 2008  
Municipal Plaza Room C  
1:30 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Councilmember Sheila McNeil, Chair, *District 2*  
Councilmember Philip Cortez, *District 4*  
Councilmember Diane Cibrian, *District 8*

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**Members Absent:** Councilmember Louis Rowe, *District 9*

**Staff Present:** Erik Walsh, *Assistant City Manager*; Michael Bernard, *City Attorney*; Andrew Smith, *Intergovernmental Relations Director*; Charles Hood, *Fire Chief*; Earl Crayton, *Assistant Fire Chief*; Matthew Polanco, *Intergovernmental Relations Manager*; Christine Wright, *Intergovernmental Relations*; Sally Basurto, *Intergovernmental Relations*; Ray Rodriguez, *Assistant City Attorney*; Brandon Smith, *Office of the City Clerk*

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**Others Present:** AJ Rodriguez, *SAHCC*; Baltazar Serna, Sr., *Patton & Boggs*

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**I. Call to order**

Chairperson McNeil called the Meeting to order.

**II. Approval of Minutes for Wednesday, March 12, 2008**

Councilmember Cibrian moved to approve the Minutes from the March 12, 2008 Intergovernmental Relations Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Cortez seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**III. Issues to be considered**

**a) Federal Legislative Update**

Andrew Smith presented information on the Annual Chamber Trip to Washington D.C. scheduled for July 22-25, 2008. He noted that detailed policy papers from selected issue groups could be downloaded from the Chamber website in place of the briefing packets that were previously distributed. Chairperson McNeil requested a City, County, and Chamber of Commerce priority list of issues.

**b) State Legislative Update**

**i. Resolution to support Ban of Fireworks**

Andrew Smith requested that a Resolution or a Policy Statement be included in the City's 81<sup>st</sup> Legislative Plan supporting the County's authority to ban fireworks under certain environmental conditions. Councilmember Cibrian moved to forward said item to the full Council for consideration. Councilmember Cortez seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fire Chief Charles Hood informed the Committee that fireworks would go on sale June 24, 2008 approximately 500 feet outside of the City limits. He noted that a press conference would be held notifying the public that it was illegal to possess fireworks within City limits and that violators would be cited. He added that the San Antonio Fire Department (SAFD) would monitor violators that entered the City from firework stands. Andrew Smith informed the Committee that the House County Affairs Committee would be holding a Hearing regarding said issue and that staff would coordinate with Chief Hood and the City Council for testimony at that Hearing.

At this time, Councilmember Cibrian excused herself from the meeting to address an issue within her District but requested the following for a future Intergovernmental Relations Committee Meeting:

- Policy on Federal Rescissions for future consideration
- Listing of Interim Committee Hearings
- Update on Voelker Park and Solar Showcase Grants

#### **ii. Interim Committee Hearings**

Andrew Smith reported that Convention, Sports, and Entertainment Facilities Director Mike Sawaya testified at the House Economic Development Committee Hearing held in Fort Worth regarding the Sports Event Trust Fund. He also reported on the following Hearings:

- House Select Committee on Property Tax Relief and Appraisal Reform will be held in Council Chambers on July 1, 2008
- Senate Transportation and Homeland Security Committee will be held at the Convention Center on July 22, 2008
- Senate Jurisprudence Committee will be held in Council Chambers on August 5, 2008
- Texas Commission on Purchasing will be held in Council Chambers on September 19, 2008

Andrew Smith stated that staff would provide updates on Hearings that impact the City of San Antonio and noted that not all Interim Committee Hearings addressed issues relevant to the City of San Antonio.

#### **c) Grants Update**

Sally Basurto reported that 41 grant opportunities had been identified and 14 grants had been received to date totaling \$9,867,955. She noted that 34 proposals had been submitted as of January 2007 and that there were 18 awards pending with an approximate potential revenue of \$3,270,000.

In response to Chairperson McNeil, Ms. Basurto stated that Grant Proposals were submitted to the full Council for consideration after authorization and then submitted to the qualifying entity after Council approval. She noted that Grant Proposals with a short turn-around period were fast-tracked and authorized administratively, submitted to the qualifying entity, and if awarded, forwarded to the full Council for acceptance of the funds.

**IV. Consideration of scheduling of items for future meetings**

Andrew Smith stated that the Committee would not meet in July and that the next meeting would be held on the second Tuesday in August. He noted that staff would forward Policy Statements regarding the proposed issues to be included in the City's Legislative Plan for the 81<sup>st</sup> Texas Legislature. He added that discussions to formulate the City's Legislative Plan would begin in August 2008.

**a) Federal Legislative Update**

Councilmember Cibrian requested a proposed Policy on Federal Rescissions.

**b) State Legislative Update**

Chairperson McNeil requested that staff proceed with efforts to have the City of San Antonio represented on the Texas Municipal League (TML) Agenda.

Councilmember Cortez requested a briefing on the issue of Meet and Confer.

Councilmember Cibrian requested a listing of Interim Committee Hearings.

**c) Grants Update**

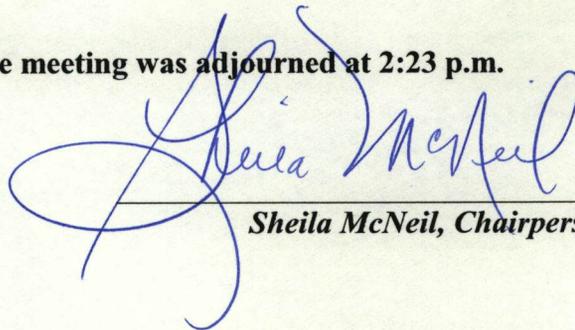
Councilmember Cibrian requested updates on the Voelker Park and Solar Showcase Grants.

**V. Executive Session: consultation concerning attorney-client matters (real estate, litigation, contracts, personnel and security) may be discussed**

There were no items addressed.

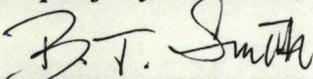
**VI. Adjournment**

**There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:23 p.m.**



**Sheila McNeil, Chairperson**

**Respectfully Submitted,**



**Brandon T. Smith  
Office of the City Clerk**