

**CITY COUNCIL GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 2012
1:00 PM
MEDIA BRIEFING ROOM, CITY HALL**

Council Present:	Mayor Julián Castro, <i>Chair</i> Councilmember Diego Bernal, <i>District 1</i> Councilmember Ivy R. Taylor, <i>District 2</i> Councilmember David Medina, Jr., <i>District 5</i> Councilmember Chris Medina, <i>District 7</i>
Council Absent:	<i>None</i>
Staff Present:	Sheryl Sculley, <i>City Manager</i> ; Michael Bernard, <i>City Attorney</i> ; Leticia Vacek, <i>City Clerk</i> ; Jed Maebius, <i>Mayor's Office</i> ; John Jacks, <i>Development Services</i> ; Pat DiGiovanni, <i>Deputy City Manager</i> ; Charles Pruski, <i>Assistant Director, Metro Health</i> ; Mark Brodeur, <i>Director, Center City Development</i> ; Stephen Barslewski, <i>SAMHD</i> ; Jim Mery, <i>Downtown Services Director</i> ;
Others Present:	Marissa Wagner, <i>KTSA</i> ; Yolanda Arrellano, <i>San Antonio Restaurant Association</i> ; Gilbert Garcia, <i>Plaza de Armas</i>

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Castro called the meeting to order.

I. Approval of minutes from the February 15, 2012 Governance Committee Meeting

Councilmember Taylor moved to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2012 Governance Committee Meeting as submitted. Councilmember Medina seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

II. Items requiring Individual Briefing(s)

a. Briefing and possible action on Proposed Changes to Chapter 13 & 35 of the Municipal Code regarding Mobile Food Vending Courts and the Downtown Mobile Food Truck Pilot Program.

Pat DiGiovanni, Deputy City Manager; Charles Pruski, Assistant Director, Metro Health; Mark Brodeur, Director, Center City Development

Pat DiGiovanni provided a brief overview and stated that a Task Force had been created to review Program Goals and provide recommendations for implementation.

Charles Pruski stated that the Health Department regulated all retail food sales through Chapter 13 of the Municipal Code. It was stated that current regulations would restrict the creation of a Mobile Food Court. Challenges highlighted include requiring businesses to leave nightly as the city does not allow for overnight parking. The regulation also requires that businesses dispose of

grease and waste properly. Lastly, regulations prohibit businesses from operating within a certain distance from another restaurant or convenience store. An exception to this provision would be if written permission was received by the neighboring business owner allowing the mobile vendor to operate.

Other challenges currently faced by Mobile Food Vendors include providing employees with access to restrooms and fresh drinking water. Additional changes made not being able to operate after dark in residential areas and not providing tables and chairs for customers.

Mark Brodeur provided a general overview of concerns identified by the Task Force. He stated that recommendations made by the Task Force include proposing changes to applicable sections of the Municipal Code and Unified Development Code that would encourage mobile vending establishments. Mr. Brodeur highlighted the regulations that businesses would need to adhere to in order to be compliant and retain their permit.

It was added that the Pilot Program would begin on May 1 and end on October 31. Mr. Brodeur stated that there would be criteria utilized in selecting vendors and their sites of operation. In regard to conducting background checks on employees, Mr. DiGiovanni stated that the Task Force recommended against the proposal.

In response to Mayor Castro, Mr. Pruski stated that some mobile food vendors may have an arrangement to utilize neighboring bathrooms and water supply. Mr. DiGiovanni stated that the restroom issue needed to be regulated.

In response to Mayor Castro, Mr. John Jacks stated that the Code requires that if there are more than eight spaces, then parking would need to be marked. Mr. Jacks noted that asphalt would have to be stripped just as for any use.

Mayor Castro noted that Ordinances in place are not conducive to what needs to be available for the Downtown Area. Yolanda Arrellano, San Antonio Restaurant Association, asked that the Hotel/Motel Industry be included in said discussions. Councilmember Bernal spoke of the background check for mobile vendors, and mentioned that he was against making the process more difficult. Councilmember D. Medina thanked the stakeholders involved. He asked that staff look into the safety of minors utilizing the food vending. Mr. Pruski stated that mobile vendors can operate within 300 feet of private property.

Staff suggested that the recommendations be brought with proposed Chapter 13 and 35 Code Changes to the Zoning Commission and followed by City Council in May.

Councilmember D. Medina moved to proceed with a Public Hearing before the Planning Commission as recommended by staff. Councilmember Bernal seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

III. Consideration of items for future meetings

a. Next Meeting Scheduled: April 18, 2012

It was stated that the next meeting was scheduled for April 18, 2012.

IV. Adjourn

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

ATTEST:



Leticia M. Vacek, TRMC/MMC
City Clerk



Julián Castro
Mayor