

Quality of Life Council Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

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*; Peter Zaroni, *Assistant City Manager*; Majed Al-Ghafry, *Public Works Director*; Cindy Schoenmakers, *Community Initiatives Interim Director*; Melody Woosley, *Community Initiatives Assistant Director*; Richard Mendoza, *Public Works Assistant Director*; Ramon Mendez, *Housing & Neighborhood Services Assistant Director*; Anthony Chukwudolue, *Public Works Assistant Director*; Kendra Trachtu, *Assistant Library Director*; Denise Monday, *Assistant City Attorney*; Samuel Garcia, *Assistant City Attorney*; Shreya Shah, *Assistant City Attorney*; Enid Howard, *Assistant City Attorney*; Brandon Smith, *Office of the City Clerk*

Also Present: Gilbert Piette, *HCS*; Carolyn Kelley, *Tobin Hill Community Association*; Debra Guerrero, *NRP Group*; Ray Lucas, *Lucas & Associates*; Nancy Hard, *Family Services*; Nancy Sheppard, *NRP Group*; John Kenny, *SAHT*; Rod Radle, *SAAHC*; Jessica Guerrero, *Esperanza P&JC*; Graciela Sanchez, *Esperanza P&JC*; Amanda Haas, *Esperanza P&JC*

Call to order

1. Citizens to be Heard

Citizens acknowledged during corresponding item.

2. Approval of the Minutes for the May 11, 2010 Quality of Life Council Committee Meeting

Councilmember Medina moved to approve the Minutes of the May 11, 2010 Quality of Life Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Medina moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items. Councilmember Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Consideration and approval to amend the City of San Antonio's Neighborhood Stabilization Program Substantial Amendment to the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan to revise the City's Neighborhood Stabilization Program Guidelines to incorporate the April 9, 2010 Federal Register Notice of Change in Definitions and Modification to the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) and to replace the 10% Product Deliver Cost with a 10% Delivery Fee**
Presented by Nina Nixon-Mendez, Administrator, Grants Monitoring & Administration
4. **Consideration and approval of revised Resolutions of Support for Montabella Senior Apartments (District 2) and San Juan Square Phase III (District 5) for Low Income Housing Tax Credit application process as required by Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs**
Presented by Nina Nixon-Mendez, Administrator, Grants Monitoring & Administration
5. **Consideration and approval of a reprogramming of \$1.5 million in HOME Investment Partnership Grant funds for the Montabella Point multifamily project (District 2)**
Presented by Nina Nixon-Mendez, Administrator, Grants Monitoring & Administration

INDIVIDUAL BRIEFINGS

6. **Briefing and possible action on the proposed revisions to Chapter 5 "Animal Care" Ordinances**
Presented by Gary Hendel, Director, Animal Care Services Department

Gary Hendel provided an overview of the proposed revisions to Chapter 5 "Animal Care" Ordinances to include: Definitions; Inhumane treatment; Pet shop requirements; and the Aggressive Dog Hearing Process.

Citizens To Be Heard

Sallie Scott, Animal Care Services Advisory Board, spoke in support of the proposed revisions. She stated that the revisions filled many loop holes in the Code and strengthened the authority of Animal Care Officers.

Mona Thaxton, Animal Care Services Advisory Board, concurred with Ms. Scott and spoke in support of the proposed revisions. She stated that she had served on the committee that suggested revisions to the Code and noted the focus on enforcement.

In response to Chairperson Ramos, Mr. Hendel explained that an Excess Animal Permit was required for properties with more than eight dogs and cats. He stated that Animal Care Services (ACS) staff would inspect the property for the appropriate space, cleanliness, and verify that there was no public nuisance. He noted that the cost of the permit was \$25.00 and were proposing revised term of one year to allow for annual inspection of the property.

Chairperson Ramos asked of the manpower for enforcement. Mr. Hendel indicated that ACS has been approved to fill all vacant positions and that staff was moving rapidly to fill those positions. He stated that with all positions filled, ACS would have a total of 36 Animal Control Officers. He noted that 36 Animal Care Officers for a city of 1.3 million was not sufficient but understood

there were budget constraints. He reported that the City of Dallas had 60 Animal Care Officers for a population of 1.1 million.

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

7. Consideration and approval of the proposed Annual Action Plan (FY 2010-2011) and the Proposed Five-Year Consolidated Plan FY 2010-2014 (FY 2010-2015) and initiating the 30 day public comment period

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

Nina Nixon-Mendez requested Committee approval to schedule the second Public Hearing for the Consolidated Plan and Action Plan to release plan drafts and budget recommendations for a 30-day comment period required by Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations. She stated that the plans concerned Entitlement Funds, CDBG, HOME, HOPWA, and ESG Funds. She noted that in the Consolidated Plan process, the community established a unified vision for community development actions and that the City of San Antonio sets goals and objectives.

Ms. Nixon-Mendez stated that the Five Year Consolidated Plan would include a 30-day public comment period from June 17, 2010 to July 19, 2010 and the final draft will be presented to the City Council on August 5, 2010 for consideration and adoption. She clarified that the Public Hearing on June 17, 2010 would be held at 6:00 p.m.

Councilmember Taylor stated that she was excited to see the Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Areas working in conjunction with the Community Development Strategic Plan and requested a copy of the complete plan.

Chairperson Ramos asked of the square mileage of the Dignowity Hill Reinvestment Area and the number of properties included. Ms. Nixon-Mendez stated that the same boundaries from the Dignowity Hill Investment Plan were utilized for the Reinvestment Area. Chairperson Ramos requested a copy of that data and a timeline of other communities impacted. She also requested exact funding amounts for the Neighborhood Revitalization Program and the Dignowity Hill Reinvestment Area.

Peter Zanoni informed the Committee that staff was recommending a \$700,000 allocation to the Supportive Housing Project at Haven for Hope. He stated that it was a multifamily living complex to be built on the Haven for Hope Campus and deemed an eligible and worthy project by staff.

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

8. Consideration and approval of reprogramming of approximately \$6,200,000 in Section 108 funds; amending the city-wide neighborhood improvement district allocation and assigning to specific projects, and ratifying current and completed projects

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

Ms. Nixon-Mendez reported that staff recommended authorizing the reprogramming of HUD 108 Loan Funds to cancel and close-out projects to allow for the creation of new projects and

ratify budget adjustments made to the HUD 108 projects. She stated that staff will continue to meet with Councilmembers and return to the Quality of Life Council Committee in August.

Councilmember Cisneros expressed her appreciation for the additional time to review projects and noted that she would like to meet with Family Services. T.C. Broadnax recommended that Councilmembers consider facilitating any proposed projects for the 2011 Budget with reprogrammed Section 108 Funding.

9. Briefing and possible action on the Head Start Program

Presented by Cindy Schoenmakers, Interim Director, Department of Community Initiatives

Cindy Schoenmakers requested approval of the Revised Income Verification Policy and authorization to carry forward funding requests totaling \$525,244 from the 2009-2010 Fiscal Year. Ms. Schoenmakers reported 100% enrollment with 225 children with disabilities served and an average daily attendance of 85% of enrolled children for the Head Start May Reporting Period. Ms. Schoenmakers also reported that staff monitored Health and Safety in preparation for the Federal Review. She stated that during the last week of May staff had monitored Health and Safety Action Plans and will monitor summer services from June 14, 2010 through July 9, 2010. She noted that the Federal Review Team would provide a report addressing review findings within 90 days from the Federal Review held May 3, 2010 through May 14, 2010. The City of San Antonio will have 120 days to correct all findings.

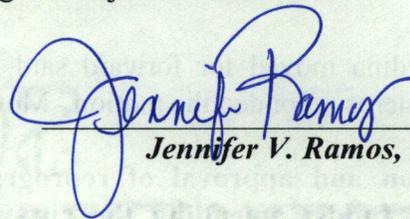
Councilmember Cisneros requested to meet with Ms. Schoenmakers and Family Services regarding the salaries of Head Start Staff.

Chairperson Ramos asked of the Head Start attendance percentage for children with disabilities. Ms. Schoenmakers indicated that the percentage of children with disabilities was approximately 3%. She noted that the Federal standard was 10% and that the City had requested a waiver due to newly revised guidelines that have made it difficult to identify children with disabilities. Chairperson Ramos requested that said percentage be included in the Head Start Monthly Report.

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

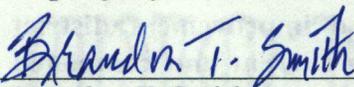
10. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:54 a.m.



Jennifer V. Ramos, Chairperson

Respectfully Submitted,



*Brandon T. Smith
Office of the City Clerk*