

Quality of Life Council Committee

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 15, 2006

7:30 a.m.

City Hall Media Briefing Room

Members Present: Councilmember Art Hall, Chair, District 8
Councilmember Richard Perez, District 4
Councilmember Elena Guajardo, District 7
Councilmember Chip Haass, District 10

Staff Present: Pat Di Giovanni, Deputy City Manager; Frances Gonzalez, Assistant City Manager; Michael Bernard, City Attorney; Malcolm Matthews, Parks and Recreation Director; Dan Cardenas, Environmental Services Director; Emil Moncivais, Planning Director; Steven Baum, Park Police Chief; Ron Smudy, Parks and Recreation Assistant Director; Norbert Hart, Deputy City Attorney; Joe Nino, Deputy City Attorney; Chris Hebner, Assistant City Attorney; Pam Oglesby, Assistant City Attorney; Krystal Strong, City Manager's Office; Janice Pokrant, District 8 Staff; John Puder, District 7 Staff; Christine Gutierrez, District 10 Staff; Brandon Smith, Office of the City Clerk

Also Present: Paul Fletcher, Downtown Vendors Association; Rolando Salazar; Robert Martinez, Downtown Vendors Association; Henry Rodriguez, LULAC; Mark Tarvino, Golf Subcommittee; Elisa Gonzalez, SEIU; Bob Buchanan; Paseo Del Rio

Call to Order

Chairman Hall called the Special meeting to order.

1. Approval of the Minutes for the May 18, 2006 Quality of Life Council Committee Meeting

Councilmember Perez moved to approve the minutes of May 18, 2006. Councilmember Guajardo seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Consideration of staff's recommendations regarding the River Walk vending information and Ordinance Revision – Presented by Malcolm Matthews, Parks and Recreation Director

Malcolm Matthews presented staff's recommendation to take the Alternative Approach to create an outlet for novelty vending that requires private property owner/business involvement and prohibits vending on the publicly controlled river level (unleased property).

Councilmember Guajardo and staff toured the Riverwalk and observed additional public property sites for consideration. She suggested a hybrid approach to include additional public property sites be included with the proposed recommendation from staff.

Councilmember Perez concurred with Councilmember Guajardo. He felt that the possibility of vendors obtaining lease space from private owners was low. He added that although he was not in favor of saturating the Riverwalk with vendors, he wanted to provide an opportunity to them.

Paul Fletcher submitted, into record, photos and information citing the vending activities of the Paseo Del Rio Association, business activities of existing vendors, proposed stationary locations and proposed working materials and dimensions. He stated that the Downtown Vendors Association proposed the following recommendations:

- Remove the Paseo Del Rio Association from the permitting process.
- Remove private property/leased space from consideration.
- Expand the Pilot Program with reasonable, additional sites on the main Riverwalk bend.

Chairman Hall entertained a motion for staff to form a hybrid approach to forward to Council or possibly to another Quality of Life meeting. Councilmember Haass stated there was no need for another meeting and suggested to forward staff recommendation to City Council and amend the item at that time.

Chairman Hall entertained another motion to forward said item to City Council in August in addition to a hybrid recommendation from the Quality of Life Committee.

Councilmember Perez moved to forward said item to Council in addition to a hybrid recommendation from the Quality of Life Committee. Councilmember Haass seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

At this time the Committee addressed items 4 and 5.

4. Consideration of staff's recommendation regarding the Golf Food and Beverage Concession RFP – Presented by Malcolm Matthews, Parks and Recreation Director

Chairman Hall noted that there were no responses to the RFP and there would be no staff presentation.

Mr. Matthews explained that there were no responses to the RFP; however, there were responses to the RFI. He noted that the companies that responded to the RFI were not comfortable with a long term commitment due to the status of the privatization or outsourcing of Golf Facilities. He added that the outcome depends on direction of item 5.

Mr. Matthews stated that the goal at this time is to obtain another short term concessions operator. He noted that the current operator is not interested in continuing.

Chairman Hall directed staff to work with members of the Golf Subcommittee, review the hybrid approach that Pat DiGiovanni previously worked with in another city and bring back a recommendation in approximately three months. He noted that this direction addresses items 4 and 5.

5. Consideration of staff's recommendation regarding the Golf Management Request for Information – Presented by Malcolm Matthews, Parks and Recreation Director

At this time the Committee addressed item 3.

3. Staff briefing on the status of the Waste Hauler permitting process – Presented by Daniel Cardenas, Environmental Services Department

Dan Cardenas reported on the results of the Waste Hauler Fee assessment. He stated that the current methodology and fee rate should be maintained and that the 2005 permit fees are now due and must be paid. He also detailed a list of proposed amendments regarding the FY 2005 fees and noted that the proposed amendments would go to the City Council on June 29, 2006.

Rolando Salazar, representing 17 small waste hauler companies, expressed concerns regarding an unreasonably high fee rate, the methodology of fee collection and the language in the ordinance. He noted that Ms. Gonzalez brought in an independent consultant to review the fees and perform a best practices study. He added that the ordinance had no enforcement mechanism. A representative from Allied Waste also expressed concerns with enforcement mechanisms regarding the ordinance.

Mr. Cardenas also reported that the court entered a "take nothing" judgment against the City on June 12, 2006 regarding COSA v. Texas Waste Systems, Inc. No. 2005-CI-11233

Councilmember Flores moved to forward said item to Council for consideration. Councilmember Guajardo seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

At this time the Committee addressed item 6.

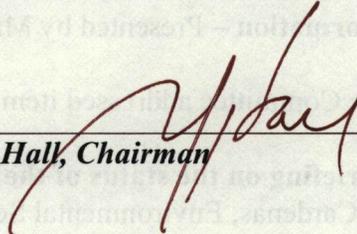
6. Monthly status report on Proposition 1 Program – Report submitted by Malcolm Matthews, Parks and Recreation Director

Mr. Matthews briefed the Committee on the following:

- Conservation Advisory Board
- 1st run of Station Model in September 2006
- Land Acquisition Team Contracts to City Council – August 2006
- 1st Property acquisitions associated with Proposition 1 – City Council August 2006
- Identification of Uvalde candidate – City Council August 2006

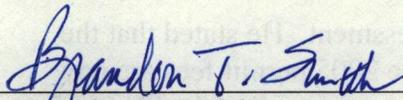
Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:57 a.m.



Art Hall, Chairman

Respectfully Submitted,



Brandon T. Smith

**Administrative Assistant II
Office of the City Clerk**