

**GOVERNANCE COUNCIL COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, August 6, 2008**

**2:00 p.m.**

**Media Briefing Room**

Council Present:	Mayor Phil Hardberger, <i>Chair</i> Councilmember Mary Alice Cisneros, <i>District 1</i> Councilmember Delicia Herrera, <i>District 6</i> Councilmember Justin Rodriguez, <i>District 7</i> Councilmember John Clamp, <i>District 10</i>
Staff Present:	Sheryl Sculley, <i>City Manager</i> ; Sharon De La Garza, <i>Assistant City Manager</i> ; Michael Bernard, <i>City Attorney</i> ; Richard Varn, <i>Chief Information Officer</i> ; Roderick Sanchez, <i>Development Services Director</i> ; Laurence Doxsey, <i>Environmental Policy Director</i> ; Leticia Saenz, <i>Deputy City Clerk</i> ; Fernando De Leon, <i>Development Services Assistant Director</i> ; Ray Rodriguez, <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; Brandon Smith, <i>Office of the City Clerk</i>
Others Present:	Councilmember Sheila McNeil, <i>District 2</i> ; Councilmember Diane Cibrian, <i>District 8</i> ; Sharron Rion, <i>USGBC</i> ; Maj. Albert Villafuerte, <i>Salvation Army</i> ; Danny Hermosillo, <i>Salvation Army</i> ; Jose Macias, <i>Salvation Army</i> ; Chuck Saxer, <i>NNOD</i> ; Nettie Hinton

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Phil Hardberger called the meeting to order.

**I. Approval of minutes from the meeting of June 18, 2008**

Councilmember Cisneros moved to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2008 Governance Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Clamp seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**II. Items Requiring Individual Briefing(s)**

**Recommendation and possible action regarding two appointments to the San Antonio River Commission (2 slots)**

Presented by Leticia M. Vacek, City Clerk

Leticia Saenz informed the Committee that Lewis Fisher was recommended for appointment to fill one vacant slot and that David Straus was recommended for reappointment to the San Antonio River Commission.

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

### III. Council Consideration Requests

- A. Consideration of a request by Councilmember Justin Rodriguez, District 7, directing the Office of the City Clerk to develop draft language for Council consideration of a Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee**  
Presented by Leticia M. Vacek, City Clerk

Ms. Saenz reported that the Office of the City Clerk reviewed the Cities of Austin and Laredo in the formulation of draft language for a Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee and she summarized the proposed recommendations. She noted that staff did not recommend categories for board appointments due to the hindrance in filling categorized vacancies.

Councilmember Rodriguez cited the newly created Office of Environmental Policy, under the direction of Laurence Doxsey, and stated that the emphasis of his request was to receive citizen input regarding environmental issues. Richard Varn stated that it would be useful to receive citizen perspectives regarding such issues.

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

- B. Consideration of a request by Councilmember Sheila McNeil, District 2, directing Parks & Recreation Department to initiate the process required by the State of Texas to sell the underutilized 1,517 Acre Healy Murphy Park in Council District 2 through a public bid with proceeds going back into the parks system**  
Presented by Xavier Urrutia, Interim Parks & Recreation Director

*Staff recommends referral of this item to the Quality of Life Committee for consideration.*

Councilmember McNeil requested the support of the Committee to initiate the process required by the State to sell Healy Murphy Park and apply the proceeds toward the Hays Street Bridge Park Development.

Councilmember Herrera moved to forward said item to the Quality of Life Council Committee for consideration. Councilmember Cisneros seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

- C. Consideration of a request by Councilmember John G. Clamp, District 10, requesting prepare available options and cost associated with the honorary name "TAPS Memorial Boulevard" to Harry Wurzbach, from Loop 410 south to the front gate of Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery. Harry Wurzbach will remain the official street name**  
Presented by Roderick Sanchez, Development Services Director

*Staff recommends installation of 10 TAPS Memorial Boulevard honorary signs along Wurzbach Road, for a total cost of \$1,682.70 to be paid from District 10 funds.*

2008

Rod Sanchez informed the Committee that the honorary name assignment to Harry Wurzbach from 410 South to the front gate of Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery was not an actual street name change and that there would be no impact along Harry Wurzbach. He noted that the associated cost for the proposed project would be provided through Council District 10 One-Time and NAMP Funds.

Councilmember Rodriguez moved to approve said item as recommended by staff. Councilmember Cisneros seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **D. Consideration of requests related to Camp Bullis**

Presented by Sharon De La Garza, Assistant City Manager

1. Consideration of a request by Councilmembers Diane G. Cibrian, District 8 and Sheila McNeil, District 2, requesting staff formulate a transportation plan to ensure connectivity and fluidity of transportation between Camp Bullis and Fort Sam Houston.
2. Consideration of a request by Councilmembers Diane G. Cibrian, District 8 and Louis E. Rowe, District 9, requesting staff explore the feasibility of creating a buffer zone surrounding Camp Bullis to utilize Downward Lighting.
3. Consideration of a request by Councilmember Diane G. Cibrian, District 8, requesting staff consult with agencies to create a comprehensive Habitat Conservation Plan that will identify land for potential conservation habitats for endangered species.

*Staff recommends referral of all of these requests to full Council for discussion on August 7, 2008.*

Sharon De La Garza informed the Committee that a Resolution in support of initiatives to preserve Camp Bullis was scheduled for consideration at the August 7, 2008 City Council Meeting and noted that staff recommended said initiatives be incorporated in that effort.

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

#### **IV. Audit Subcommittee Update**

Councilmember Clamp reported that the City's external auditors, Grant Thornton, issued the best opinion on the financial statements of the City. He noted that the City's staff, functionality, responsibilities, and processes have improved extensively over the past five years and he acknowledged the extraordinary progress of the Finance Department under the direction of Ben Gorzell. Councilmember Clamp asked the Grant Thornton Audit Team if it was necessary to meet privately with the Audit Subcommittee and their response was that no additional meeting was necessary. He added that the goal for next year was to have the external audits completed by

March or April. Councilmember Clamp also reported that the San Antonio River Authority Audit had been released and there would be some contract language changes regarding the reimbursement of indirect costs.

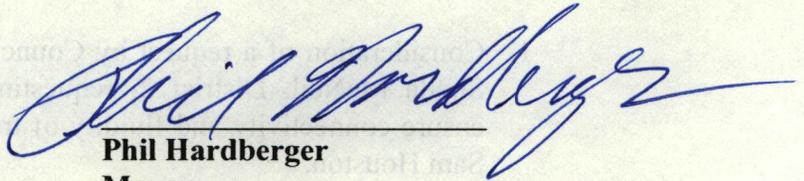
**V. Consideration of items for future meetings**

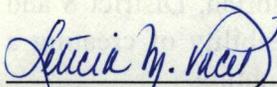
No items were addressed.

**VI. Adjourn**

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:38 pm.

**ATTEST:**

  
**Phil Hardberger**  
**Mayor**

  
**Leticia M. Vacek**  
**City Clerk**