

**CITY COUNCIL GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2013
1:00 PM
MEDIA BRIEFING ROOM, CITY HALL**

Council Present:	Mayor Julián Castro, <i>Chair</i> Councilmember Diego Bernal, <i>District 1</i> Councilmember Rebecca Viagran, <i>District 3</i> Councilmember Rey Saldaña, <i>District 4</i> Councilmember Ron Nirenberg, <i>District 8</i>
Staff Present:	Sheryl Sculley, <i>City Manager</i> ; Robbie Greenblum, <i>City Attorney</i> ; Leticia Vacek, <i>City Clerk</i> ; Lori Houston, <i>Director Center City Development</i> ; Colleen Swain, <i>Asst. Director Center City Development</i> ; Frances Gonzalez, <i>Mayor's Office</i> ; Jed Maebius, <i>Liaison, Mayor's Office</i> ; John Peterek, <i>Special Projects Manager, City Manager's Office</i> ; Rebekah Jamison, <i>Sr. Executive Secretary, Office of the City Clerk</i> ; Lianna Patterson, <i>Executive Assistant, City Manager's Office</i>
Others Present	Marc Harrison, <i>VIA Trustee Applicant</i> ; Lou Miller, <i>VIA Trustee Applicant</i> ; Gerald Lee, <i>VIA Trustee Applicant</i> ; David Kaliski, <i>VIA Trustee Applicant</i> ; Yolanda A. Benavides, <i>VIA Trustee Applicant</i> ; Jackie King; <i>General Land Office</i> ; Josh Baugh, <i>Reporter SA Express News</i>

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Castro called the meeting to order.

I. Approval of minutes from the November 20, 2013 Governance Committee Meeting.

Councilmember Viagran moved to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2013 Governance Committee Meeting as submitted. Councilmember Saldaña seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

II. Items requiring individual briefing(s)

A. Consideration and possible action on appointing individuals to the VIA Metropolitan Transit Authority (3 slots).

Leticia M. Vacek, City Clerk

Mrs. Vacek reported that there were 3 slots to be filled on the VIA Metropolitan Transit Authority. She added that of the 9 Applicants received; two individuals Michael Duffy and John

Franklin III had withdrawn their applications from consideration. She stated that Christopher Anderson and Thomas Guerrero were not present.

Mrs. Vacek added that the following VIA Applicants were present: Yolanda Benavides, Marc A. Harrison, David M. Kaliski, Gerald W. Lee and Lou Miller.

Mayor Castro stated that VIA Metropolitan Transit Authority applicants would be given three minutes to speak. The Committee interviewed applicants present:

Yolanda Benavides stated that she was a retired Counselor and Teacher from Harlandale Independent School District. She added that she was a life long patron of public transit. As a student she rode San Antonio buses throughout her school years from elementary to college.

Marc Harrison stated that he was employed at Greyhound Lines, Inc. as a Operations Supervisor and has over 20 years of experience. He added that he had a broad range of talents that included operations and service management, a proactive leadership style and excellent team building skills.

David Kaliski stated that he currently serves as a Trustee for the San Antonio Lighthouse for the Blind. He added that VIA plays a integral part in continued development, growth and strength of San Antonio.

Gerald Lee stated that he was the owner of Lee Public Affairs which does work in governmental and public affairs. He added that he was the former Regional Director of Government Relations for the American Cancer Society and is an active member of the community.

Lou Miller stated that he served on the VIA Metropolitan Transit and Municipal Golf Association. He added that he has served on the VIA Board for the past 4 years and Chairs the Operations Oversight and Finance Committee.

Mayor Castro recessed the meeting into executive session at 1:40 pm to discuss personnel issues related to Item 2.

Mayor Castro reconvened the meeting at 1:50 pm and announced that no action was taken during executive session.

Councilmember Saldaña moved to re-appoint Gerald Lee and Lou Miller and to appoint Marc Harrison to the VIA Metropolitan Transit Authority Board of Trustees by forwarding said names to the full council for approval. Councilmember Bernal seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Briefing and possible action on a request from Councilman Diego Bernal, District 1, regarding the Alamo Plaza Master Plan.
Lori Houston, Director, Center City Development Office

Lori Houston reported that Councilmember Diego Bernal submitted a CCR requesting that staff make a recommendation regarding a process, strategy, and next steps for a comprehensive master planning effort for Alamo Plaza that is respectful of the Plaza and the Alamo's History.

Ms. Houston stated that several report recommendations and concept plans had been initiated over the years and funded by the City. In 2012, Project for Public Spaces developed a Concept Plan that identified recommendations for maximizing the potential of Alamo Plaza as a great destination for residents and visitors. Prior to this most recent planning effort, a committee was established in 1994 to develop recommendations regarding the Alamo Plaza and its redevelopment. While both efforts provide guidance regarding the next steps as well as identify concepts for consideration, a Comprehensive Master Plan with the necessary implementation tools has yet to be developed.

Ms. Houston recommended the creation of an Alamo Plaza Advisory Committee that would include representation from the General Land Office, City of San Antonio, property owners, and other stakeholders. The Committee would assist with the update of the 1994 Alamo Plaza Study Committee Report; create a mission and guiding principles for the redevelopment of Alamo Plaza and surrounding area. The update would assist in the development of the scope of work for the Master Plan.

Mayor Castro entertained moving said item to the Quality of Life Council Committee or to the Infrastructure and Growth Council Committee.

Councilmember Bernal moved to forward said item to the Quality of Life Council Committee. Councilmember Viagran seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

III. Consideration of items for future meetings

A. Next Meeting Scheduled: January 15, 2014

Mayor Castro announced that the next Governance Council Committee Meeting was scheduled for January 15, 2014. There being no further discussion, Mayor Castro adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

ATTEST:



Leticia Vacek, TRMC/MMC
City Clerk



Julian Castro
Mayor