

CITY COUNCIL GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes

October 3, 2007

2:00 p.m.

Media Briefing Room

Council Present:	Mayor Phil Hardberger, <i>Chair</i> Councilmember Mary Alice Cisneros, <i>District 1</i> Councilmember Roland Gutierrez, <i>District 3</i> Councilmember Delicia Herrera, <i>District 6</i> Councilmember Kevin Wolff, <i>District 9</i>
Staff Present:	Sheryl Sculley, <i>City Manager</i> ; Jelynn Burley, <i>Deputy City Manager</i> ; Erik Walsh, <i>Asst. City Manager</i> ; T.C. Broadnax, <i>Assistant City Manager</i> ; Sharon De La Garza, <i>Assistant to the City Manager</i> ; Leticia Vacek, <i>City Clerk</i> ; Michael Bernard, <i>City Attorney</i> ; Pete Gonzalez, <i>City Auditor</i> ; Andrew Cameron, <i>Grants Monitoring & Administration Director</i> ; Robert Peche, <i>Economic Development Director</i> ; Andrew Smith, <i>Intergovernmental Relations Director</i> ; Fernando De Leon, <i>Development Services Assistant Director</i> ; Trey Jacobson, <i>Mayor's Office</i> ; Jed Maebius, <i>Mayor's Office</i> ; ; Denise Monday, <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; Camila Kunau, <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; Norbert Hart, <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; Susan Green, <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; Nina Nixon Mendez, <i>Planning</i> ; Lori Houston, <i>City Manager's Office</i> ; Chris Looney, <i>Planning</i> ; Frank Salinas, <i>City Manager's Office</i> ; Krystal Strong, <i>City Manager's Office</i> ; Steve Nivin, <i>Economic Development</i> ; Walter Ague, <i>District 7 Staff</i> ; Paul Jimenez, <i>District 2 Staff</i> ; Thomas Marks, <i>District 9 Staff</i> ; Mario Hune, <i>District 10 Staff</i> ; Leticia Cantu, <i>District 1 Staff</i> ; Sonny Torres, <i>District 6 Staff</i> ; Brandon Smith, <i>Office of the City Clerk</i>
Others Present:	Councilmember Sheila McNeil, <i>District 2</i> ; Bobby Perez, <i>Shelton-Valadez</i> ; John Kuderer, <i>Axion Imaging</i>

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Phil Hardberger called the meeting to order.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2007

Councilmember Herrera moved to approve the minutes of September 19, 2007 as submitted. Councilmember Cisneros seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

II. ITEMS REQUIRING INDIVIDUAL BRIEFING(S):

A. Consideration to bring forth an item to City Council regarding an agreement between the City of San Antonio and the San Antonio River Foundation for naming rights for improvements and recognition of donors along the San Antonio River.

Presented by Jelynn Burley, Deputy City Manager

Staff Recommendation: Refer to full Council for consideration.

Jelynn Burley presented information on the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of San Antonio and the San Antonio River Foundation for recognition of contributions to the San Antonio River Improvements Project (SARIP). She detailed: actions for consideration, donor recognition, naming opportunities, approval process, design and placement, and the duration of guidelines. Ms. Burley also presented a full scale replica of the proposed maximum signage size.

Mayor Hardberger expressed concern with the size of the proposed signage. He noted that the proposed signage was too large and looked like advertisements. He also noted that all proposed considerations should be reviewed by the San Antonio River Foundation before presentation to the Governance Committee.

Councilmember Wolff proposed that the size of signage be determined by the amount of contribution donated. Councilmember Cisneros suggested a review of highway signage size and adoption process.

Upon discussion of River Improvement Amenities, Mayor Hardberger directed staff to identify the full cost of amenities.

Ms. Burley stated that staff would address the Committee's concerns and direction in the next presentation.

III. COUNCIL CONSIDERATION REQUESTS – Presented by Sharon De Le Garza, Assistant to the City Manager

A. Consideration of a request by Councilmember Sheila McNeil, District 2, requesting Amendment of the Unified Development Code. Requesting a modification of the existing Entertainment District or creation of a new zoning district.

Staff Recommendation: Refer to Infrastructure & Growth Committee for consideration.

Nina Mendez informed the Committee that an Entertainment Zoning District provided a variety of uses to support entertainment. Councilmember McNeil stated that the purpose for her request was to create an economic development entity from Sunset Station to the AT&T Center.

Councilmember Herrera moved to forward said item to the Infrastructure & Growth Committee for consideration. Councilmember Wolff seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

At this time, the Committee addressed item C.

- C. Consideration of a request by Councilmember Sheila McNeil, District 2, requesting an amendment to the Unified Development Code to require a specific use permit for check cashing facilities and pay-day loan agencies in certain zoning districts.**

Staff Recommendation: Refer to Infrastructure & Growth Committee for consideration.

Councilmember McNeil informed the Committee that the goal of said request was to control predatory lending in low-income areas. Chris Looney revealed that currently, check cashing facilities and pay-day loan agencies are permitted in all business districts as loan agencies. He noted that the proposed amendment would require a specific permit in certain zoning districts.

Councilmember Herrera moved to forward said item to the Infrastructure & Growth Committee for consideration. Councilmember Cisneros seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

At this time, the Committee addressed item B.

- B. Consideration of a request by Councilmember Sheila McNeil, District 2, regarding dissolution of the South Fort Sam Houston Gateway Commercial District Advisory Board. Requesting the creation of the Fort Sam Houston Community Advisory Board.**

Staff Recommendation: Refer to Economic & Community Development Committee for consideration.

Councilmember McNeil informed the Committee that previously, the South Fort Sam Houston Advisory Board addressed Urban Development issues within the area. She noted that the proposed request would create the Fort Sam Houston Community Advisory Board to include the vote of the surrounding community.

Councilmember Herrera moved to forward said item to the Economic & Community Development for consideration.

- D. Consideration of a request by Councilmember Mary Alice Cisneros, District 1, to negotiate a loan with the owners of the Judson Candy Building in an amount not to exceed \$435,000, for the purpose of the historic façade improvements. Funds would be allocated from Council District 1, HUD 108 funds, where there is \$587,544 available.**

Staff Recommendation: Staff does not recommend approval of this request.

T.C. Broadnax reported that the project did not have a funding gap and that staff recommended against approval of the proposed loan. He noted that the project qualifies as a Historic Façade Renovation Project under HUD guidelines.

Councilmember Cisneros informed the Committee that the loan would come from District 1 discretionary funds giving the City of San Antonio first lien on the property. She noted the proposed project would bring \$13 million to South Flores and that the project would increase the City's tax base.

Bobby Perez addressed the Committee on behalf of Judson Candy property owner Phillip Allen. He revealed that flood plain guidelines required the reconstruction of the parking lot of the proposed project at a cost of \$435,000. He noted that an application for a variance was submitted and denied. He cited the cost of parking lot reconstruction to meet flood plain guidelines as the financial gap in the project.

Mayor Hardberger stated that the project does merit full Council consideration.

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

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no items addressed.

V. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

Councilmember Gutierrez presented an update on the IGR trip to Washington, D.C. He detailed information regarding the SA River Improvement Project, Rail Relocation Safety, COPS Grant, and negotiations with America Airlines for a direct flight from San Antonio to Washington, D.C. He recommended consideration of a long-term study of Rail Trenching as an alternative to Rail Relocation.

Councilmember Wolff reported that the Audit Subcommittee approved the Annual Audit Plan and the Audit Subcommittee Operating Procedures. He noted that he would like those items on the next Governance Committee agenda.

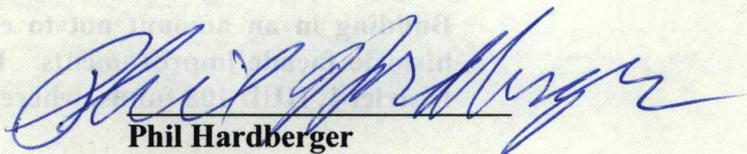
VI. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

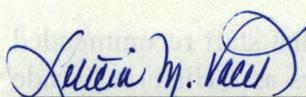
There were no items addressed.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:59 p.m.

ATTEST:


Phil Hardberger
Mayor


Leticia M. Vacek
City Clerk