

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO HELD IN  
THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, ON  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1984.

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The Special Meeting of the City Council was called to order at 4:12 P.M. by the presiding officer, Mayor Henry Cisneros, with the following members present: BERRIOZABAL, WEBB, DUTMER, WING, EURESTE, THOMPSON, ALDERETE, HARRINGTON, ARCHER, CISNEROS. Absent: HASSLOCHER.

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MINORITY CONTRACTORS ASSISTANCE CENTER

Mayor Cisneros spoke of the recent indictment of Mr. Pete Bautista, Executive Director of the Minority Contractors Assistance Center (MCAC), on two counts stemming from the handling of contracts on the "Stroh-ling Down the River" concert series. He further stated that the City Council must, at this time, decide whether or not MCAC has been impaired by this matter, in some way.

Dr. Kenneth Daly, Director of the Economic & Employment Development Department, stated that the proposed Ordinance now before the City Council directs City staff to locate a new agency to perform the required services, in place of MCAC. He noted that no new contract has been signed with MCAC; that the organization is operating through authority of a letter from the City of San Antonio, pending agreement on a new contract. He further stated that, as a result of the recent indictments of the agency's director, its credibility is now in question. He noted that two recent City staff reports had questioned whether MCAC really had a functional board of directors, and he recommended that the City find another agency to take over MCAC's functions and funding. He noted that at least one other agency is available to do this and could handle both the present MCAC staff and functions, eliminating only MCAC's board and executive director.

Mr. Alderete moved to accept staff recommendations to de-fund Minority Contractors Assistance Center in 30 days. Mr. Wing seconded the motion.

Mr. Eureste stated his opinion that MCAC funding should be terminated, not just transferred to another agency. He spoke to details of the recent indictments returned against the agency's executive director, and stated his belief that there has been no requested need in the community for MCAC's services.

Dr. Daly noted that the University of Texas at San Antonio Center for Business Development provides a similar service to that provided by MCAC to minority contractors, regardless of the Council's decision today, and he recommended that funding be continued for United Organizations Coalition itself, except for the MCAC, which should be terminated.

Mr. Eureste stated his belief that minority contractors have no need for this agency in question, and he also questioned the UTSA agency's record in minority hiring and minority concerns. He spoke against the pending motion.

Mayor Cisneros recommended that MCAC funding be terminated; then, if at a later date the Council feels that the function is needed, it could reinstate funding to perhaps a new agency, thus funding whoever could do the job best.

Mr. Eureste made a substitute motion to terminate the MCAC funding in 30 days and have City staff come back to the Council later with recommendations of possible options to take this function "in-house". Mr. Archer seconded the motion.

Mr. Archer spoke in support of the substitute motion, noting that City staff has repeatedly recommended against further funding of this agency.

Mr. Archer proposed an amendment to the substitute motion to de-fund MCAC and give those remaining funds to the San Antonio Public Library System. Mr. Eureste seconded the motion.

Mrs. Dutmer stated her feeling that MCAC staff is not responsible for the actions of its executive director, and noted that the pending motion would terminate a group of employees just before Christmas. She spoke against the motion.

Mr. Webb noted that City staff had warned the Council in the past of problems with this agency, but stated his belief that the work provided by the agency should continue. He spoke in favor of bringing the function "in-house".

In response to a question by Mr. Webb, Dr. Daly briefly described the work done for minority contractors by both MCAC and the UTSA function.

Mayor Cisneros spoke against the amendment to the substitute motion regarding providing remaining MCAC funds to the Library System, since by so doing, the Council would preclude future funding for minority contractor assistance work, should another agency be selected at a future date. He also noted that the City Attorney favors termination action in 30 days.

Mr. Eureste spoke in favor of the 30-day closeout time period, and in favor of also keeping the remaining funds uncommitted, for the time being.

December 13, 1984  
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Ms. Berriozabal stated her opinion that the function provided is an important one, and small businesses in San Antonio need assistance. She asked that city staff be directed to explore how to spend this money in order to best assist minority contractors, perhaps through the Department of Economic and Employment Development of the City. She also spoke of the possibility of allocating some of these funds to fund certain changes recommended by the EEO committee. She spoke in favor of de-funding the present agency, MCAC.

Mrs. Dutmer stated her opinion that it would be a miscarriage of justice to de-fund the agency, not only eliminate the executive director, noting that eight jobs are at stake here.

Mayor Cisneros spoke to his own personal convictions and recommendations in this matter.

Mr. Alderete stated his belief that the city cannot provide these services by bringing the agency funding "in-house", and further stated that he feels this would be a conflict of interest. He spoke of the need for an outside agency to perform this service.

Mrs. Dutmer made an amended motion to de-fund all City-funded agencies. The motion died for lack of a second.

The amendment to the substitute motion failed to carry by the following vote: AYES: Dutmer, Archer; NAYS: Berriozabal, Webb, Wing, Eureste, Thompson, Alderete, Harrington, Cisneros; ABSENT: Hasslocher.

The substitute motion prevailed by the following vote: AYES: Berriozabal, Webb, Wing, Eureste, Archer, Cisneros; NAYS: Dutmer, Thompson, Alderete, Harrington; ABSENT: Hasslocher.

The main motion, as substituted, prevailed by the following vote: AYES: Berriozabal, Webb, Dutmer, Wing, Eureste, Thompson, Alderete, Harrington, Archer, Cisneros; NAYS: None; ABSENT: Hasslocher.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, the meeting was adjourned at 5:05 P.M.

A P P R O V E D

*Henry Cisneros*  
M A Y O R

ATTEST *Norma J. Rodriguez*  
C i t y C l e r k