

**EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE COUNCIL COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2012
10:00 AM
MEDIA BRIEFING ROOM, CITY HALL**

Members Present: Councilmember Ray Lopez, Chair, *District 6*
Councilmember Ivy R. Taylor, *District 2*
Councilmember Leticia Ozuna, *District 3*
Councilmember Rey Saldaña, *District 4*

Members Absent: Councilmember Cris Medina, *District 7*

Staff Present: Peter Zaroni, *Assistant City Manager*; Rebecca Flores, *City of San Antonio Education Policy Administrator*; Gloria Hurtado, *Human Services Director*; Melody Woosley, *Assistant Director Department of Human Services*; Ramiro Salazar, *San Antonio Public Library Director*; Dale McNeill, *Assistant Library Director for Public Services*; Viki Ash, *Children's Services Coordinator*; Kristine Duff, *Assistant City Attorney*; Martha Lambaria, *Office of the City Clerk*

Also Present: Antonia Castaneda, *San Antonio Commission on Literacy Chair*; Lloyd B. Potter, Ph.D., *University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA)*

At this time, the committee addressed Item 4.

4. Briefing on the Library's Young Pegasus Poetry Competition
Ramiro Salazar, Director, San Antonio Public Library

Ramiro Salazar, Director of San Antonio Public Library introduced new Assistant Library Director for Public Services, Dale McNeill. Mr. Salazar reported that Mr. McNeill was formerly the Director of Public Services in Queens and had management oversight for sixty Branch Libraries. He invited Viki Ash, Children's Services Coordinator to present on the Library's Young Pegasus Poetry Competition.

Dr. Ash presented information pertaining to the San Antonio Public Library's Young Pegasus Poetry Competition. She noted that the Poetry Competition is held annually and that poems are selected by a panel of seven independent judges to be published in the Young Pegasus Anthology. In addition, children receive a copy and are invited to an awards ceremony.

In response to Chairman Lopez, Dr. Ash stated that the Poetry Competition is open to children ages 18 and under. Chairman Lopez shared a story of a young reader he met with aspirations of becoming a poet and thanked Dr. Ash for her service.

Councilmember Saldaña spoke in support of said competition and commended Dr. Ash for her service.

2. Approval of minutes of the September 11, 2012 Educational Excellence Committee Meeting

Councilmember Saldaña moved to approve the Minutes of the September 11, 2012 Educational Excellence Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

3. Update briefing on the implementation of the Pre-K 4 SA initiative and review of the staff recommended lease terms for the initial two Model Centers

Presented by Peter Zanoni, Assistant City Manager

Peter Zanoni, Assistant City Manager provided a briefing on the Implementation of the Pre-K 4 SA Initiative. He reported that staff recommended lease agreements for the initial two Model Centers to be located in the Northwest and Southeast Areas:

1. Northwest - Former SW Airlines Call Center, 3635 Medical Drive
 - ✚ \$1.2 million acquisition cost
 - ✚ Appraised at \$3 million
 - ✚ Council District 8
 - ✚ Northside ISD
 - ✚ Currently 30,000 square feet with the potential to expand to 50,000 square feet
 - ✚ City pays for lease
 - ✚ Total construction cost is \$5.5 million
 - ✚ Developer to purchase property and to lease property to City for eight years which will save the city \$2 to \$3 million
 - ✚ Student classrooms
 - ✚ Mobile centers
 - ✚ Administrative room
 - ✚ Parent resource center

2. Southeast - Brooks City Base West, 2535 SE Military Drive
 - ✚ Private sector building new property
 - ✚ Council District 3
 - ✚ San Antonio ISD
 - ✚ 50,000 square feet
 - ✚ Eight year lease; City pays for lease
 - ✚ Total \$1.2 million dollar annual lease
 - ✚ Total construction cost \$9.3 million
 - ✚ Administrative room
 - ✚ Teacher training classes
 - ✚ Student classrooms
 - ✚ Playground
 - ✚ Parent resource center
 - ✚ Parking

Mr. Zanoni requested that the Educational Excellence Committee provide a recommendation to the full City Council regarding the two staff-recommended Model Center Lease Agreements.

At this time, the Committee addressed Item 1.

1. Citizens To Be Heard

No citizens were present to speak.

At this time, the Committee resumed with Item 3.

3. Update briefing on the implementation of the Pre-K 4 SA initiative and review of the staff recommended lease terms for the initial two Model Centers

In response to Councilmember Saldaña, Mr. Zanoni replied that prior to the tax increase; the two centers would be paid for with capital funds. He stated that there would be a \$4 million one time payment from capital funds to the Southside Center and a \$2 million payment from capital funds to the Northside Center.

Councilmember Ozuna entered the meeting at this time.

Chairman Lopez asked of the status of developing Transportation & Curriculum. Rebecca Flores reported that a transportation model for magnets will develop pickup points across the city and that the home school district or parent/guardian will be responsible in getting students to pickup points. Chairman Lopez asked of the type of vehicle or mode of transportation to be utilized. Ms. Flores stated that a contract with the school district will be implemented to provide school buses. In addition, she reported that for Special Education Students with Individualized Education Programs (IEP), the city will provide transportation from the student's home to the center. Chairman Lopez confirmed that State Guidelines would be followed. Ms. Flores noted that an Aide would travel with students to maximize safety. She stated that the Board of Directors will be appointed by City Council and the CEO that oversees the initiative will make official recommendation in the curriculum selection. Chairman Lopez asked of the logistics of the building and construction. Mr. Zanoni stated that State Guidelines and Licensing are being followed and that the Southside Center is 100% permitted and ready to go. In response to Chairman Lopez, Mr. Zanoni replied that a candidate profile for Board Members was being compiled. Chairman Lopez asked of the process for final candidate selection. Mr. Zanoni replied that one person per Council District and the Mayor's Appointee would be forwarded to the full City Council.

Councilmember Ozuna asked for clarification on the transportation magnet school model for the Southeast Center. Ms. Flores noted that children's residence/address will be determined first and the transportation route will be determined second. In response to Councilmember Ozuna, Ms. Flores replied that a seven-hour school day will be followed with the option for an extended day and that the centers would participate in the lunch program as the district does.

Mr. Zanoni stated a correction, noting that Northside's Budget was \$1.5 million on the contract, not \$2 million.

Councilmember Taylor moved to recommend the two staff-recommended Model Center Lease Agreements to the full City Council. Councilmember Ozuna seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

5. Briefing and possible action on the dissolution of San Antonio Commission on Literacy and establishment of the SA2020 Commission on Education

Gloria Hurtado, Director, Department of Human Services

Gloria Hurtado, Department of Human Services Director provided a briefing and requested approval of the dissolution of the San Antonio Commission on Literacy, the establishment of an SA2020 Commission on Education, and the proposed roles of the new Commission.

Councilmember Taylor thanked Ms. Hurtado and expressed her support for the new Commission. She stated her involvement as a liaison to the program. She asked of the anticipated increase in members on the new committee and the number of programs assigned to them. Ms. Hurtado proposed that the new Commission have two representatives from each district and that the commission work on teams. She projected having four or five agencies assigned to them and having them engage with SA2020.

Councilmember Taylor offered Antonia Castaneda, San Antonio Commission on Literacy Chair (SACOL) the opportunity to speak. Dr. Castaneda stated that after being created in 1987, it was time for change to the SACOL. She asked for reconsideration of SA2020 with more focus on adult literacy & goals. She stated that since 1987, adult literacy has not changed markedly in San Antonio and that San Antonio remains one of the major cities with the highest rate of non-English literacy in the nation. Dr. Castaneda thanked Gloria Hurtado and Melody Woosley for their work.

Councilmember Taylor suggested that the Library assist with working toward goals related to adult literacy.

Councilmember Taylor moved to forward the dissolution of the San Antonio Commission on Literacy and the establishment and roles of an SA2020 Commission on Education for full Council consideration. Councilmember Saldaña seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

6. Briefing and possible action on the Head Start 2012 Community Assessment, the 2012-2013 City and service provider Head Start service plans, and revisions to policies and procedures related to program standards of conduct

Gloria Hurtado, Director, Department of Human Services

Melody Woosley provided a briefing and requested approval of the Head Start 2012 Community Assessment, the 2012-2013 City and Service Provider Head Start Service Plans, and Revisions of two Policies and one Procedure related to program standards of conduct.

In response to Councilmember Saldaña, Ms Woosley replied that the third year Community Assessment Survey is significant because it is a full assessment that entails a more comprehensive look at the data to include new census data and new information in the community; she stated that this was different than the first and second years which were updates. Councilmember Saldaña asked Lloyd B. Potter, Ph.D., University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), of the methodology and Community Assessment. Dr. Potter reported that a shift on source of data is being used. He stated that the American Community Survey Source is now being used to estimate more reliable and accurate data indicating poverty shifts at the school

district level. In addition, he reported that a parent survey was used to indicate health and dental issues.

Councilmember Saldaña moved to approve the Head Start 2012 Community Assessment, the 2012-2013 City and Service Provider Head Start Service Plans, and Revisions of two Policies and one Procedure. Councilmember Ozuna seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

7. Briefing on a Head Start notification of program deficiency related to an incident at a service provider's facility, results of the 2011-2012 parent survey, the 2011-2012 Program Information Report, and information on planned Head Start training
Gloria Hurtado, Director, Department of Human Service

Ms. Woosley provided a briefing on Program Deficiency and the correction plan. She stated that almost 50% of 2011-2012 Parent Program Surveys were returned and that results were overwhelmingly positive. She indicated that survey results would be used in program planning and training development. Lastly, she informed the Committee of the 2011-2012 Program Information Report (PIR) and 2013 Calendar Year Head Start Training.

No action was required for said item.

8. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Martha Lambaria

Office of the City Clerk



Ray Lopez, Chairman