

**Economic & Community Development Council Committee
Special Meeting
Minutes**

**Monday, April 12, 2010
3:30 p.m.
Media Briefing Room**

Members Present: Councilmember Mary Alice Cisneros, *Chair, District 1*
Councilmember Ray Lopez, *District 6*
Councilmember Elisa Chan, *District 9*
Councilmember John G. Clamp, *District 10*

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Sheryl Sculley, *City Manager*; A.J. Rodriguez, *Deputy City Manager*; Martha Sepeda, *First Assistant City Attorney*; Ed Davis, *Economic Development Assistant Director*; Veronica Zertuche, *Deputy City Attorney*; Leslie Haby, *Assistant City Attorney*; Xochil Rodriguez, *Assistant City Attorney*; Chris Hebner, *Assistant City Attorney*; Stephen Whitworth, *Assistant City Attorney*; Brandon Smith, *Office of the City Clerk*

Also Present: Trey Jacobson, *Drenner & Golden*; Denise O'Connor, *Allstate*; Frank Burney, *Martin & Drought*; Mario Hernandez, *EDF*; Misty Mayo, *EDF*; John Yeggerst, *LYI*; Tom Long, *CPS Energy*; John Leal, *CPS Energy*; Jaime Herreon, *El Mercado Association*; Nick Pena, *El Mercado Association*; Ben Brewer, *Downtown Alliance*; Mary Jane Villalobos, *SAWS*; Boone Brinson, *Farmers Market Association Press*

Call to Order

Chairperson Cisneros called the meeting to order.

Executive Session

At this time, Chairperson Cisneros recessed the meeting into Executive Session at 3:30 p.m. to discuss Items 2 and 3. She reconvened the meeting at 4:38 p.m. and stated that no action had been taken.

At this time, the Committee addressed Item 2.

2. Briefing and possible action on the creation of a 4B Economic Development Corporation Presented by Ed Davis, Assistant Director, International & Economic Development

Ed Davis presented staff's recommendation to create an Economic Development Corporation (EDC) for the purposes of promoting and facilitating economic development projects in targeted industries and areas of the City. He stated that the EDC would be governed by a seven-member board of directors to include: the Mayor, City Manager, Economic and Community Development Committee Chair, Infrastructure and Growth Committee Chair, and three other Citizens At Large. He noted that the City Council must approve all programs, projects and financial expenditures, and that the Council can alter the structure, organization, board composition, or activities of the corporation at any time.

Chairperson Cisneros spoke in support of the EDC and stated that it should not impede other organizations that promote San Antonio's economic potential. She also spoke in opposition to the redirection of funds from any organizations that have an economic impact to the City.

In response to Councilmember Clamp, Mr. Davis clarified that any project supported by City Funds or revenue from City Funds would require Council approval.

Chairperson Cisneros asked of the Board of Directors' Citizen At Large nominations. Mr. Davis stated that staff will brief the Committee individually on the recommended slate to be included in the EDC By-laws presented to the Council for consideration.

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

3. Briefing and possible action on the Economic Development Foundation Annual Contract

Presented by A.J. Rodriguez, Deputy City Manager, Interim Director, International & Economic Development

A.J. Rodriguez requested Committee approval to forward the Economic Development Foundation (EDF) Annual Contract with: 1) Proposed business points; 2) Payment contingent upon approval of a revised governance structure and by-laws to include the Economic and Community Development Committee (ECDC) Chair on the Advisory Council; 4) Approval of the EDF Action Plan within 60-days of approval of the agreement for the first year.

In response to Councilmember Chan, Mr. Rodriguez clarified that the EDF Action Plan would be returned to the ECDC for review, input, and recommendation to the full Council for consideration.

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

1. Briefing and possible action on the South Texas Business Fund Merger

Presented by Rene Dominguez, Assistant Director, International & Economic Development

Rene Dominguez provided information on the proposed merger of the South Texas Business Fund (STBF) and ACCION Texas and eventually the Community Development Loan Fund (CDLF). He stated that the intent of the merger was to provide increased services to small businesses. He noted that ACCION Texas had agreed to certain conditions that ensure loan capital and technical assistance would be made available to the San Antonio area. He cited benefits of the merger that included the selection of San Antonio (ACCION/STBF) as a finalist for a national grant application. He indicated that neither ACCION nor STBF would have been eligible at said participation level.

Mr. Dominguez provided an overview of the merger conditions to include the following:

- Creation of a separate San Antonio Division
- Creation of separate financials
- Creation of a revolving loan fund utilizing the existing portfolio
- Creation of three new permanent board positions – responsible for oversight of San Antonio Division

Councilmember Clamp requested that staff include the following in the presentation to the City Council: STBF's original mission, assets, revenue, and impact of the merger with ACCION Texas.

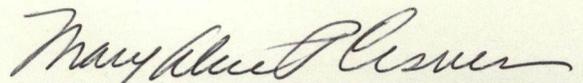
Councilmember Chan asked of the reporting mechanism. Mr. Dominguez replied that standard reports that break down all of the different types of activities and supplied to the Economic Development Director semi-annually.

In response to Councilmember Chan, Mr. Dominguez confirmed that the Women's Business Center would be enhanced with new resources and that current employees will be offered positions within the merged organization or remain with the City of San Antonio.

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

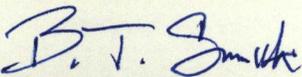
Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:33 p.m.



Mary Alice P. Cisneros, Chairperson

Respectfully Submitted,



Brandon T. Smith
Office of the City Clerk