

Quality of Life Council Committee

Minutes

Thursday November 17, 2005

7:30 a.m.

City Hall - Media Briefing Room

Members Present: Councilmember Art Hall, Chair, District 8
Councilmember Richard Perez, District 4
Councilmember Elena Guajardo, District 7
Councilmember Chip Haass, District 10

Staff Present: Melissa Byrne Vossmer, Assistant City Manager; Christopher J. Brady, Assistant City Manager; Martha Sepeda, Assistant City Attorney; Malcolm Matthews, Parks & Recreation Director; Albert Ortiz, Police Chief; Tom Wendorf, Public Works Director; Emil Moncivais, Planning Director; Florencio Pena, Development Services Director; Roderick Sanchez, Development Services Assistant Director; Ray Baray, Intergovernmental Relations Manager; Trey Jacobson, Assistant to the Mayor

Also Present: Councilmember Sheila McNeil, District 2; Barbara Witte-Howell, Parks Board; P. J. Wright, Golf Subcommittee

Call to Order

Chairman Hall called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of Minutes for the November 3, 2005 Quality of Life Meeting

The committee members present unanimously approved the minutes of the November 3, 2005 Quality of Life Council Committee Meeting.

2. Staff briefing regarding HB 1835, Rough Proportionality – Relating to the apportionment of municipal infrastructure costs in regard to certain permit applications by local governments – Florencio Pena, Development Services Director

Roderick Sanchez presented an overview of HB 1835 provisions and detailed staff's position. He explained the new legislative provisions regarding the dedication and construction of thoroughfares under the principal of "Rough Proportionality".

In response to Chairman Hall, Mr. Sanchez stated that the methodology is currently being implemented in Travis County.

Councilmember Haass requested the history of HB 1835 and expressed concerns regarding the City of San Antonio's strength at the state level. Mr. Sanchez added that the HB 1835 went into effect immediately after passage.

Florencio Pena presented information on SB 848 regarding the rights accrued by an applicant at the time "fair notice of the project and the nature of the permit sought" is given to local government. Mr. Pena submitted to the committee a "Fair Notice Form" in regulation with SB 848 and expressed the urgency to implement the form immediately due to the fact that the SB 848 is presently in effect.

At this time the committee addressed item 4.

4. Presentation on proposed media campaign for the Non-Insured Tow Program implementation – Albert Ortiz, Police Chief

Chief Albert Ortiz briefed the committee on the media campaign to educate the public on the Non-Insured Tow Program to be advertised throughout December, 2005. He stated that the vehicles of drivers lacking proof of insurance will be impounded starting January 1, 2006.

Councilmember Guajardo requested specifications on the program and suggested consideration of a supplemental assistance program for uninsured motorists. Chief Ortiz stated that the vehicles would be towed to a City lot and would be released once insurance has been obtained. He added that the vehicle may be released to a private towing company.

Councilmember Perez requested to view the video produced for the campaign in both English and Spanish and urged that the campaign start immediately and not just for thirty days. Chief Ortiz stated that material for the campaign has been completed and that he would accelerate the process.

At this time the committee addressed item 3.

3. Discussion and consideration of a request to amend the Naming Ordinance in reference to SA River Improvements as requested by Councilmember Roger O. Flores, District 1 – Malcolm Matthews, Parks and Recreation Director

Said item was moved to the December 15, 2005 Quality of Life Committee Meeting.

5. Status report on Golf Management Options – Malcolm Matthews, Parks and Recreation Director

Malcolm Mathews presented information on the municipal golf course operations models of several cities throughout the nation. Mr. Mathews stated that staff recommendation for consideration to include: 1) Continue Best Practices; 2) Privatization to a for-profit; 3) Privatization to a non-profit; 4) Management Contract to a private firm.

Barbara Witte-Howell stated that the Parks Board supported staff recommendation to continue with the Best Practices model and presented a brief overview of San Antonio

Municipal Golf Courses. She noted that the Golf Associations that utilize San Antonio Municipal Golf Courses also supported Best Practices model.

P. J. Wright noted the reduction in municipal golf course staff over the past five years and added that "Best Practices" can not be effective without adequate staffing.

Chairman Hall acknowledged the City's compliance with the living wage does not allow competition with the private golf courses. He stated that he was not in favor of privatization and requested staff to review the funding options outlined in the San Antonio Zoological model. Chairman Hall asked what profits are expected using the Best Practices model. Mr. Mathews replied that golf course profits are mainly weather dependant. He added that options outside of golf should be considered for revenue.

Councilmember McNeil stated she has been approached by private investors for the Willow Springs Golf Course and is advocating flexibility in privatization consideration. She noted that she is on the Oversight Committee for the SBC Master Plan and requested that the Quality of Life Committee remain open to this unique opportunity for revenue.

Councilmember Haass requested the following items at the next Quality of Life Committee meeting:

- A Golf Plan to break even for the next budget session (including Food & Beverage and Municipal Marketing)
- A draft RFP for the Willow Springs Golf Course

Mr. Mathews suggested that the development of negotiation points for a future agreement for both Willow Springs and Riverside Golf Courses would be a better option.

Chairman Hall directed staff to bring forth details and analysis of revenues and expenditures on the Baltimore and Seattle Municipal Golf Programs at a special meeting in January 2006.

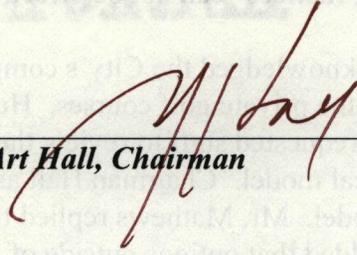
EXECUTIVE SESSIONS:

- A. Discuss legal issues related to judicial appointment process, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (attorney consultation).**

Said item was not addressed.

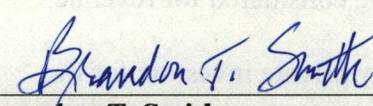
There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 a.m.

Copies of these presentations are made part of the file and are available upon request



Art Hall, Chairman

Respectfully Submitted,



Brandon T. Smith
Administrative Assistant II
Office of the City Clerk