

**CITY COUNCIL GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
Minutes**

**May 7, 2008**

**2:00 p.m.**

**Media Briefing Room**

<b>Council Present:</b>	Mayor Phil Hardberger, <i>Chair</i> Councilmember Mary Alice Cisneros, <i>District 1</i> Councilmember Delicia Herrera, <i>District 6</i> Councilmember John Clamp, <i>District 10</i>
<b>Council Absent:</b>	Councilmember Justin Rodriguez, <i>District 7</i>
<b>Staff Present:</b>	Sheryl Sculley, <i>City Manager</i> ; Frances Gonzalez, <i>Assistant City Manager</i> ; T.C. Broadnax, <i>Assistant City Manager</i> ; Michael Bernard, <i>City Attorney</i> ; Leticia Vacek, <i>City Clerk</i> ; Richard Varn, <i>Chief Information Officer</i> ; David Garza, <i>Housing and Neighborhood Services Director</i> ; Dr. Bryan Alsip, <i>San Antonio Metropolitan Health District Assistant Director</i> ; Kevin Goodwin, <i>Information Technology Services Assistant Director</i> ; Ramon Mendez, <i>Housing and Neighborhood Services Assistant Director</i> ; Charles Pruski, <i>San Antonio Metropolitan Health District Assistant Director</i> ; Melody Wosley, <i>Community Initiatives Assistant Director</i> ; Chris Hebner, <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; Shreya Shah, <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; Trey Jacobson, <i>Assistant to the Mayor</i> ; Larry Zinn, <i>Assistant to the Mayor</i> ; Dawn Ann Larios, <i>Mayor's Office</i> ; Magda Branecka, <i>Management and Budget</i> ; Dr. Janet Realini, <i>San Antonio Metropolitan Health District</i> ; Sarah Cazares, <i>City Manager's Office</i> ; Melinda Cerda, <i>City Manager's Office</i> ; Sandra Martinez, <i>District 6 Staff</i> ; Sonny Torres, <i>District 6 Staff</i> ; Meghan Oswald, <i>District 8 Staff</i> ; Michael Shackelford, <i>District 8 Staff</i> ; Mario Hune, <i>District 10 Staff</i> ; Mandy Milam, <i>Office of the City Clerk</i>
<b>Others Present:</b>	Councilmember Diane Cibrian, <i>District 8</i> ; Chuck Saxer, <i>North-side Neighborhoods for Organized Development (NNOD) President</i> ; George Block, <i>Chair of Voices for Children</i>

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Phil Hardberger called the meeting to order.

**II. Council Consideration Requests**

- A. Consideration of a request by Councilmember Jennifer Ramos, District 3, requesting that Housing and Neighborhood Services and Community Initiatives staff consider the feasibility and implementation of a "Grow over Graffiti" abatement program. Presented by David Garza, Director of Housing and Neighborhood Services.

Staff recommended that this initiative be referred to the Quality of Life Council Committee.

Mr. Garza stated that the department was working on a matching project in collaboration with the St. Paul Church and Alamo Forestry Partnership. He noted that staff meets regularly with Alamo Forestry and will be discussing turning this pilot into a citywide program. He also noted that the City would only serve as a partner rather than as a lead agency.

Mayor Hardberger asked if other cities have similar projects and what type of maintenance would be involved. Mr. Garza replied that locations with a lot of vegetation, like California, have comparable programs. He added that staff would be working closely with Alamo Forestry and the City Arborist to identify vegetation able to withstand San Antonio weather while the maintenance would be the responsibility of the neighborhood.

Councilmember Cisneros entered the meeting at this time.

Councilmember Clamp moved to approve staff's recommendation to forward said item to the Quality of Life Council Committee noting that the City would only serve as a partner, not the lead agency. Councilmember Herrera seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

#### **I. Approval of minutes from the meeting of April 16, 2008**

Councilmember Herrera moved to approve the minutes of April 16, 2008 as submitted. Councilmember Clamp seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by those present.

#### **II. Council Consideration Requests**

- B. Consideration of a request by Councilmember Diane G. Cibrian, District 8, requesting that staff provide an annual report on the status of children in San Antonio. Presented by Melody Woosley, Assistant Director of Community Initiatives.

Staff recommended continued technical support of efforts made by private partners to develop this annual report.

Ms. Woosley reported that the department had met with Voices for Children to discuss developing and funding a project through community partnerships. She stated the belief that said request would be fulfilled through this project and noted that the City would not be the lead agency in the report, but would contribute technical assistance and data.

Councilmember Cibrian noted that the City invests a sizeable amount of resources in children and children's programs.

Councilmember Cisneros inquired about the May 30, 2008 meeting. Ms. Woosley stated that it was a planning session for local agencies interested in partnering and funding the proposed project.

Councilmember Clamp asked for clarification of the scope of the report and the City's role. Councilmember Cibrian stated that her intention was to have a comprehensive report on the status of children and from there it would be possible to evaluate if investments were sound and spent wisely. Ms. Sculley noted that it was a community wide issue, thus recommended the City not be the sole author although that was part of the original request.

Councilmember Herrera moved to approve staff's recommendation of continued support of efforts made by private partners. Councilmember Cisneros seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

- C. Consideration of a request by Councilmember Diane G. Cibrian, District 8, requesting that staff formulate a strategic plan to combat the issues of teen pregnancy in San Antonio. Presented by Dr. Bryan Alsip, Assistant Director of San Antonio Metropolitan Health District.

Staff recommended that this issue be referred to the Quality of Life Council Committee.

Dr. Alsip spoke of the national and local teen pregnancy rates. He noted that rates as a whole, were decreasing, but San Antonio's rate was still twice the national average. He added that the Health District had been utilizing partnerships with organizations like Project Worth and media campaigns to educate San Antonio residents. He stated that staff's recommendation was to forward said item to the Quality of Life Council Committee to sort out short and long term strategies to combat teen pregnancy.

Mayor Hardberger added that Sonia Rodriguez, Chair of the Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women, had agreed to participate in the effort. Councilmember Clamp asked how much was spent on the issue in San Antonio annually and if it would be possible to combine the efforts with Item II-B. Dr. Alsip replied that approximately \$400,000 was spent, but those funds are leveraged and the sum also included clinical services. He noted that approximately \$2 million had been provided in the form of free air time and promotional items from various media outlets.

Dr. Realini spoke on behalf of Project Worth. She thanked the Council for their attention to the issue and added that although it is a sensitive topic, the City can help youth make decisions which will benefit their futures.

Councilmember Cibrian announced that May 7<sup>th</sup> was National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Day. She noted that Northside ISD had been a good partner with Project Worth, but it needed to expand to other school districts like SAISD, Edgewood, and Harlandale. She also noted that when economies fall, teen pregnancy rates rise and teenage mothers often dropout out of school or have more children. She expressed appreciation for the Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women's cooperation in this matter.

Councilmember Herrera moved to approve staff's recommendation to forward said item to the Quality of Life Council Committee subject to a collaboration of various partnerships on this effort. Councilmember Cisneros seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

- D. Consideration of a request by Councilmember Diane G. Cibrian, District 8, requesting that staff assess the feasibility of creating a website for San Antonio Kids, to be accessed from the City of San Antonio website. Presented by Richard Varn, Chief Information Officer.

Staff recommended inclusion of this initiative be explored as part of the current effort to contract for web development services, contingent on funding for such a project.

Mr. Varn stated that the site would be a great tool to engage children in government because they use the internet for information. He noted that the City contracts out many of the web design projects because creative people are needed. He discussed the underlying infrastructure initiatives the department was processing and added that funds for this project had not been identified.

Councilmember Clamp added that the target and scope of the website needed to be identified and suggested having the students design the website themselves. Mr. Varn concurred and added that interns may be able to assist in design as well. Councilmember Cisneros encouraged staff to seek graduate students who may need project or work credits.

Councilmember Herrera moved to approve staff's recommendation. Councilmember Cisneros seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those present.

### III. Executive Session

No items were addressed.

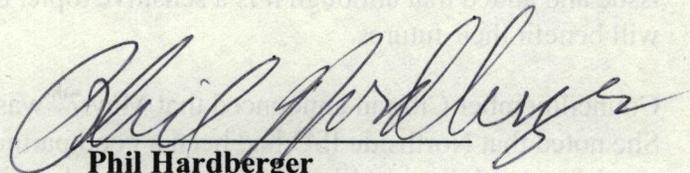
### IV. Consideration of items for future meetings

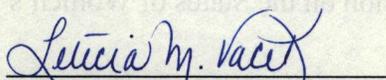
No items were addressed.

### V. Adjourn

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm.

ATTEST:

  
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**Phil Hardberger**  
Mayor

  
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**Leticia M. Vacek**  
City Clerk