

Economic & Community Development Council Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

9:00 a.m.

Municipal Plaza Room B

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

Members Absent: *None*

Staff Present: Pat DiGiovanni, *Deputy City Manager*; A.J. Rodriguez, *Deputy City Manager*; Leticia Saenz, *Deputy City Clerk*; Rene Dominguez, *International & Economic Development Assistant Director*; Leslie Haby, *Assistant City Attorney*; Brandon Smith, *Office of the City Clerk*

Also Present: Ramiro Cavazos, *Hispanic Chamber of Commerce*; Thomas Larralde, *Hispanic Contractors Association*; Donald Gonzalez, *Estrada Hinojosa*

Call to Order

Chairperson Cisneros called the meeting to order.

1. Citizens to be Heard

There were no citizens to be heard.

2. Approval of Minutes of the March 24, 2010 and April 12, 2010 Economic and Community Development Council Committee Meetings

Councilmember Chan moved to approve the Minutes of the March 24, 2010 and April 12, 2010 Economic and Community Development Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Lopez seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Consideration of Applicants to the Empowerment Zone Governance Board

Presented by Leticia M. Vacek, City Clerk

Leticia Saenz reported that there were 16 applicants to fill 17 slots on the Empowerment Zone Governance Board. Applicants submitted:

- Terri Williams
- Teresa Hernandez
- Federico Zaragoza
- Dennis Moroney
- Benjamin Kraft
- Darnell McLaurin
- Betty Myrvang
- Renee Nank
- Donna C. Normandin
- Janie M. Gonzalez
- Julie Salmon-Hinojosa
- John Park
- Charlie Moke
- James Hetherington
- Taj Matthews
- Richard Burton

She stated that staff recommendation was that the Committee recommend the 16 applicants for appointment as submitted. She noted that the Committee could entertain recommendation for the remaining slot at a later date.

Councilmember Lopez moved to recommend the above stated applicants for appointment to the Empowerment Zone Governance Board. Councilmember Chan seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Briefing and possible action on the Proposed Small Business Economic Development Advocacy Ordinance

Presented by Rene Dominguez, Assistant Director, International and Economic Development Department

Rene Dominguez provided an overview of the proposed Small Business Economic Development Advocacy (SBEDA) Ordinance and indicated that the ordinance and tool enhancements had been thoroughly vetted by the public. He stated that the proposed ordinance was created to empower Small, Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprises (SMWBE) and establish an enhanced focused program. He cited several enhancements to include the following: Central Vendor Registration (CVR); Goal Setting Committee(s); Affirmative Procurement Initiatives (API's); and Capacity Building Initiatives. He indicated that the new SBEDA Program Initiatives apply only to San Antonio Metropolitan Statistical Area (SAMSA) Contractors. He added that in order to qualify for the program, an SMWBE must be headquartered or have a significant business presence within the Relevant Marketplace for at least one year. Mr. Dominguez stated that the proposed ordinance was scheduled for Council consideration in June 2010 with an effective date of January 2010.

Councilmember Chan asked of the CVR software implementation. Mr. Dominguez stated that efforts are being coordinated to have the software in place by October 2010. He noted that CIMS is currently utilizing the access model to monitor subcontracting and that the components currently in place will be imported to the CVR when fully activated. Councilmember Chan also asked of the composition of the Goal Setting Committee. Mr. Dominguez replied that the committee will have a minimum composition of five and include the following: City Manager or Designee; Small Business Office (SBO) Staff; Purchasing/CIMS Staff; contracting department staff; and 2 Small Business Advisory Committee (SBAC) Representatives (ex-officio).

Councilmember Clamp referenced the Goal Setting Committee and noted the importance of a fair process.

In response to Councilmember Lopez, Mr. Dominguez clarified that contractors must have a 20% employee-base in the SAMSA in order to qualify for the new SBEDA Program.

Chairperson Cisneros asked of the training process and suggested the creation of a video training module regarding the new SBEDA Program.

Ramiro Cavazos spoke of the importance of full transparency and the key to success of the proposed ordinance. He stated that staff and the City Council should be committed to the ordinance and held accountable. He noted that the proposed ordinance should also be adequately staffed and resourced. He further noted that "racially neutral" does not exist in the real world and felt the Goal Setting Committee SBAC representatives should have voting authority.

Thomas Laralde spoke in support of meeting with all entities and groups to develop a process to build capacity. He concurred with Mr. Cavazos' comments regarding "race neutral" and referenced an external perception of the City of San Antonio not being a solid partner. He stated that the City should be leaders regarding SMWBE's.

Chairperson Cisneros requested that the Committee entertain a motion regarding the following: to clarify the contracting staff wording regarding the Goal Setting Committee composition; grant Goal Setting Committee SBAC Representative voting authority; and adequate staffing and financial resources for the new program. A.J. Rodriguez requested to meet individually with the Committee regarding the SBAC Representatives voting issue. Chairperson Cisneros agreed and removed the voting issue from her request.

Councilmember Chan moved for Committee recommendation of said ordinance without the implementation procedure and with clarification of the Goal Setting Committee Purchasing/CIMS Staff representation to the full Council for discussion in B Session. Councilmember Lopez seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilmember Chan expressed concern with the Goal Setting Committee component. She stated that there should be City Council input on the parameters of high profile RFP/RFQs at the beginning of the procurement process. Councilmember Clamp concurred and stated that the Council should be provided options at the beginning rather than at the end of the process when presented to the full Council for consideration. Mr. Rodriguez stated that he would discuss the issue with the City Manager.

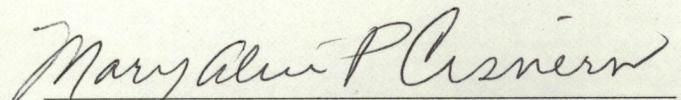
Councilmember Clamp requested that an update on said issue be included on the ECDC agenda.

5. Consideration of items for future meetings:

Councilmember Clamp requested that an update on said issue be included on the ECDC agenda.

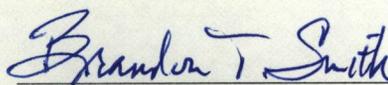
Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:53 a.m.



Mary Alice P. Cisneros, Chairperson

Respectfully Submitted,



Brandon T. Smith
Office of the City Clerk