

QUALITY OF LIFE COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2011

10:00 AM

MEDIA BRIEFING ROOM, CITY HALL

Members Present: Councilmember Ivy R. Taylor, *Chair, District 2*
Councilmember Diego Bernal, *District 1*
Councilmember David Medina, Jr., *District 5*
Councilmember W. Reed Williams, *District 8*

Members Absent: *None*

Staff Present: Sharon De La Garza, *Assistant City Manager*; Peter Zaroni, *Assistant City Manager*; Gloria Hurtado, *Human Services Director*; Ed Gonzalez, *Human Services Assistant Director*; Jed Maebius, *Office of the Mayor*; Enid Howard, *Assistant City Attorney*; Shreya Shah, *Assistant City Attorney*; Brandon Smith, *Office of the City Clerk*

Also Present: Bobby Perez, *Shelton & Valadez*; Lori Gonzalez, *Selrico*; James Gonzaba, *Selrico*; Natalie Thompson, *KGBTexas*; C.J. Littlefield, *HCS*; Bill Malony, *Meals-On-Wheels*; Yolanda Santos, *Senior Task Force*; Gale Scheibler, *BAAA*; Wayne Sovia, *Senior Task Force*; Maria Morales, *Senior Task Force*; Sara Jih, *Booz Allen Hamilton*; Leticia Martinez, *Booz Allen Hamilton*; Melanie Thompson, *KGBTexas*; Mary Garcia, *KGBTexas*; Edmund Keely, *CCCEA*; Doris Griffin, *Jefferson Outreach*; Nanaj Taquacta, *Bexar County*; Olinda Martinez, *Bexar County*

1. Citizens to be Heard

Citizens addressed the Committee during corresponding items.

2. Approval of Minutes of the June 14, 2011 Quality of Life Council Committee Meeting

Councilmember Williams moved to approve the Minutes of the June 14, 2011 Quality of Life Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Bernal seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

INDIVIDUAL BRIEFING

3. Quality of Life Committee Goals and Strategy Work Session

a. Staff briefing on the 2010 San Antonio Community Survey

Sharon De La Garza provided an overview of the San Antonio Community Survey. She stated that the City of San Antonio was proceeding in the right direction and setting a standard for other large cities. She noted that emphasizing improvements in Public Works, Police Safety, and

Neighborhood Services should be the City's top overall priorities in order to see an increase in customer satisfaction ratings over the next two years.

b. Committee Discussion

Councilmember Bernal spoke of proposing an increase in Neighborhood Access and Mobility Program (NAMP) Funds. Ms. De La Garza recommended a presentation from Public Works Director Majed Al Ghafry regarding the funding structure of projects.

Councilmember Williams spoke of the significance of the Infrastructure Management Program (IMP) and noted the importance for the public to understand how the program works. With regard to initiatives, Councilmember Williams spoke of the SPARKS Program regarding the use of school playgrounds as a park setting. He spoke in support of the program and stated that he was trying to secure a non-profit organization to take on said project in San Antonio.

Councilmember David Medina asked for a presentation by the Health Department regarding health issues, citywide and by Council District. Ms. De La Garza replied that staff would take the opportunity to provide an update on the progress made through the Community Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW) Grant. In response to Councilmember David Medina, Ms. De La Garza indicated that the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) required that all grant funds must be allocated. She stated that the grant was focused on partnerships with schools targeting certain zip codes and noted that allocation information would be provided.

4. Briefing and possible action on the Senior Services Strategic Plan

Gloria Hurtado, Director, Human Services Department; Peter Zanoni, Assistant City Manager

Gloria Hurtado provided an overview of Senior Services programs. She reported that there were 79 Senior Centers with a total FY 2011 Budget of \$9.7 million. She stated that over 9,000 seniors participated in programs or activities during FY 2011 and that an average of 3,500 meals are served on a daily basis (400 are homebound meals).

Natalie Thompson, KGBTexas, provided an overview on the development of the proposed Senior Services Strategic Plan. She recommended that the City coordinate with the Alamo Area Council of Governments (AACOG) to gradually transition federal funding currently targeted for medical transportation purposes and stated that this would expand transportation availability of seniors for congregate nutrition services. She noted that the City should also serve as a major partner in a region-wide strategic transportation plan for seniors.

Citizens To Be Heard

Yolanda Santos, Senior Task Force Co-Chair, stated that previous concerns regarding the Senior Services Study presented to the Committee had been resolved. She spoke in support of the proposed strategic plan and noted that a phased-in approach was necessary.

Wayne Sovia, Senior Task Force Co-Chair, spoke of the importance of communication and stated the he was pleased with the work provided by the Consultants.

Vicente Garcia, Senior Advocate, expressed concern with the closure of Senior Centers in the past and spoke in support of the proposed plan.

Betty Eckert, Senior Advocate, spoke in support of the proposed plan and stressed that the City is the vendor over the Senior Program; not the non-profit organizations.

In response to Councilmember Bernal, Ms. Hurtado responded that bilingual communications were included in the Strategic Communications Plan.

Councilmember Williams spoke of the use of technology to advance the delivery system of the Senior Center Program and the recruitment of volunteers as a useful resource. He also spoke of exploring providing services to seniors at the age of 65 instead 60.

Councilmember David Medina concurred with Councilmember Williams regarding the use of technology and volunteers. He asked of the number of meals served through the program. Ms. Hurtado responded that 3,500 meals are served daily. She stated that approximately 3,200 meals are served at Senior Centers and 400 through home delivery. She noted the recommendation to transition the home delivery component to Meals-On-Wheels and cited a savings to the City.

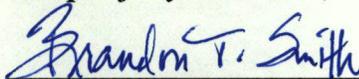
Chairperson Taylor asked of the budgetary impact of phasing-in the proposed recommendations. Ms. Hurtado responded that the Human Services Department did not submit any reductions to the Senior Services Program for FY 2012. She stated that the Department anticipated efficiencies and redirection of funds to target funds where needed. Chairperson Taylor asked of the site closures that affected 400 seniors. Ms. Hurtado responded that four sites had been closed over the past year by the Archdiocese and that the City had communicated the nearest centers for transition to those seniors affected by the closures.

Councilmember Medina moved to accept the report and forward to B Session for presentation. Councilmember Bernal seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

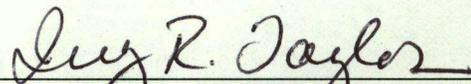
5. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Brandon T. Smith
Office of the City Clerk


Ivy R. Taylor, Chair