

**State of Texas  
County of Bexar  
City of San Antonio**



**DRAFT**

**Meeting Minutes**

**City Council B Session**

City Hall Complex  
105 Main Plaza  
San Antonio, Texas 78205

---

Wednesday, June 14, 2017

2:00 PM

Municipal Plaza Building

---

The City Council of San Antonio convened in the “B” Room of the Municipal Plaza Building. Deputy City Clerk Leticia Saenz took the Roll Call noting the following Councilmembers present:

**PRESENT:** 11 - Mayor Taylor, Treviño, Warrick, Viagran, Saldaña, Gonzales, Lopez, Sandoval, Nirenberg, Krier, and Gallagher

Item 2 was addressed first.

2. A Briefing on the May 2017 Historic Preservation Month. [Roderick Sanchez, Assistant City Manager; Shanon Miller, Director, Historic Preservation Office]

Shanon Miller stated that Preservation Month was initiated by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and that the City had participated in this event since 2009. She stated that the purpose of Preservation Month was to: 1) Promote historic preservation and cultural heritage to the community; 2) Reach and engage new audiences; and 3) Advance citywide goals and Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) initiatives. She noted that over 1,000 people participated in Preservation Month. She stated that the Eighth Annual Amazing Preservation Race included seven secret locations that teams had to find in downtown San Antonio with over 100 participants. She stated that the ninth Annual Amazing Preservation

Race for kids would be held on June 17, 2017.

Mrs. Miller noted that OHP hosted an education event called the Eastside Sacred Places Tour which was a self-guided tour of the churches proposed for historic designation on the Eastside. She stated that this event aligned and assisted in promotion the Scout SA Initiative, a comprehensive designation initiative. She stated that the City's Assistant Archaeologist presented a lecture on the Powder House discovery and that OHP partnered with two different schools to develop curriculum and events which showcased the importance of place to students. She mentioned that the World Heritage Office (WHO) hosted an inaugural Mission Possible Guided Bus Tour and OHP hosted the fifth Annual Cool Crest Mini Extravaganza. She noted that OHP partnered with the Power of Presentation Foundation on this event and all proceeds raised by said foundation would be utilized for OHP's hands-on preservation programs including the Rehabber's Club Initiative. She stated that the Power of Preservation Foundation and OHP would host the Power of Preservation Prom Event on October 26, 2017.

Mrs. Miller reported on a new major initiative called Rehabarama. She stated that for Rehabarama, OHP partnered with over 1,180 volunteers and 17 contractors to complete work on 18 homes in the Denver Heights Neighborhood on a single day. She noted the sponsors of this event and stated that work completed came at no cost to homeowners. She played a video of Rehabarama events and noted that the estimated value of work performed was over \$100,000. She stated that the Ninth Annual Historic Homeowner Fair would be held on August 26, 2017 at the Pearl Stable. She noted that OHP would partner with the WHO on the Second Annual World Heritage Festival in September 2017. She stated that the Living Heritage Symposium would be held on September 6-8, 2017 as part of said festival and that the Restored by Light Event would be held on September 8, 2017 at Mission Concepción. She noted that Students Together Achieving Revitalization (STAR) events would be held partnering with local universities.

Mayor Taylor asked of the amount of money raised by the Power of Preservation Prom Event. Mrs. Miller stated that approximately \$40,000 was raised each year. Mayor Taylor asked how funds from said event were utilized. Mrs. Miller replied that said funds were traditionally utilized for STAR events and hands-on workshops to include Rehabarama. Mayor Taylor encouraged expansion of fundraising efforts.

Councilmember Warrick asked of future projects in Rehabarama. Mrs. Miller stated that OHP would work closely with Councilmembers and the Historic Districts Coalition to identify finite areas of multiple buildings which required a variety of types of work.

Councilmember Gonzales asked of the eligibility requirements for residents. Mrs. Miller

stated that the properties were selected based on their ability to showcase various types of work.

Councilmember Viagran thanked staff and partners for their work on historic preservation. She highlighted the work accomplished by Council District 3 Residents.

Mayor Taylor thanked staff for the presentation.

1. A Briefing on Animal Care Services Chapter 5 Changes and ACS Strategic Plan Revision. [María Villagómez, Assistant City Manager; Heber Lefgren, Director, Animal Care Services]

Heber Lefgren stated that in 2004, the city was euthanizing 90% of the animals impounded in the old facility. He noted that the City worked to improve conditions by building a new facility in 2006. He stated that in the same year, Animal Care Services (ACS) developed its first Animal Care Strategic Plan (Strategic Plan). He noted that the Strategic Plan focused on improving the live release rate and established a 70% live release goal by 2012. He stated that by 2011, the City had raised its live release rate from 10% to 30% and was not likely to reach 70% by 2012. He noted that with the assistance of city leadership and in partnership with the City's Innovation Group, a revised Strategic Plan was created in 2011 with a new goal of realizing a 70% live release rate by 2015. He stated that the current Strategic Plan focused on a balanced approach between community safety and positive outcomes for pets. He noted that the revised Strategic Plan sought direction and balance through three strategic priorities: 1) Enhanced enforcement; 2) Controlling stray population; and 3) Increase live release rate. He stated that a fourth priority was added in 2015, under the direction of City Council, to engage and educate the public. He noted that in the last few years, ACS had implemented multiple strategic initiatives based upon the four priorities and reviewed the strategic initiatives associated with each priority.

Mr. Lefgren stated that the live release rate had increased from 32% in 2011 to 88% in 2016 and this year; the live release rate was 91%. He reviewed the strategic results comparing 2011 to 2016 noting that the data indicated positive results. He stated that a process of updating the Strategic Plan and reviewing Chapter 5 of the City Code had begun, noting that the process was undertaken to: 1) Ensure continual and future progress; 2) Seek community input; and 3) Ensure existing programs, services, and vision were consistent with community needs.

Mr. Lefgren stated that ACS utilized a community input process where nine community meetings were held throughout the city; 1,073 surveys were completed with strong

representation from all City Council Districts; and 60,000 views from social media were achieved. He presented the following results of the surveys: 1) Community had noticed improvement in operations; 2) Four ACS strategic priorities were evenly ranked; and 3) Need to focus on enforcement. He noted that based on feedback received, preliminary recommendations regarding spay/neuter, tethering, impoundments, animal limits, dangerous, aggressive dogs, animal permits, and noise complaints were proposed as revisions to Chapter 5 of the City Code. He stated that nine community meetings would be held between February and May 2017 and the findings and recommendations would be presented to the ACS Advisory Board in July 2017. He noted that one community meeting would be held this month and over the next two months, five or six community meetings would be held to allow residents to provide input on the recommendations. He stated that in August 2017, the Strategic Plan would be brought before the City Council at a B Session with final recommendations in September 2017.

Mayor Taylor asked of the method utilized for distribution of the surveys. Mr. Lefgren replied that surveys were available at each of the community meetings as well as online and were advertised in English and Spanish through various means such as the newspaper. Mayor Taylor asked where dogs could be placed at night since they could not be tethered. Mr. Lefgren replied that dogs could be kept in the garage, house, or could be secured within a fence. Mayor Taylor asked of resources available for those who could not afford to fix their fences. Maria Villagómez stated that staff would work with property owners to provide resources to secure their fences. Mr. Lefgren added that this year's budget included resources to assist with repairs.

Councilmember Treviño asked of the plan for providing resources during the night time hours. Mr. Lefgren stated that Officers were assigned based on the call volume. Councilmember Treviño expressed support for having one Officer per district in next year's budget. He spoke of the need for educational outreach to the community.

Councilmember Saldaña expressed satisfaction that ACS communicated with animal advocacy groups to solve problems. He asked if an adjustment would be made on the distance a chicken coop had to have between it and another building. Mr. Lefgren stated that there were no plans to adjust the distance which was 50 feet. Councilmember Saldaña expressed support for the foster network.

Councilmember Viagran asked if peacocks were allowed in the city. Mr. Lefgren replied that a peacock would fall under the same rule as other fowl, which allowed three. Councilmember Viagran asked of the number of animals which were picked up. Mr. Lefgren replied that 31,000 animals were picked up each year. Councilmember Viagran suggested that pick up of animals being held by residents be given a higher priority.

Councilmember Krier spoke of designing the Senior Center in District 9 to accommodate pet placement events.

Councilmember Gonzales asked how the public would be educated on the appropriate use of tethering. Mr. Lefgren replied that as part of the education, citizens would be informed of appropriate methods of tethering and would be educated on the principle behind same. Councilmember Gonzales asked if ACS was responsible for addressing wild animals in the community. Mr. Lefgren replied that ACS partnered with wildlife rescue and other organizations to address wild animals in the community.

Councilmember Sandoval asked of the number of surveys received in Spanish. Mr. Lefgren replied that they received less than 10 surveys in Spanish. Councilmember Sandoval asked of the outcomes of the surveys and how they would be shared. Mr. Lefgren stated that outcomes would be available online and would be presented to the ACS Advisory Board.

Councilmember Warrick asked if spay/neuter surgeries were completed automatically or if owners were required to have them done. Mr. Lefgren replied that when pets were impounded and returned to their owners, the owners were required to have them spayed or neutered within 30 days. Councilmember Warrick asked what would happen if they did not comply. Mr. Lefgren replied that non-compliance would result in the issuance of a civil citation and the owner would be required to appear in Municipal Court. He stated that the owner would be required to pay a fine of up to \$300 and future non-compliance would result in issuance of a criminal citation.

Councilmember Lopez asked if citizens were notified of the potential outcomes of pets taken to ACS. Mr. Lefgren replied that they were. Mayor Taylor thanked staff for the presentation.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Executive Session was not held.

- A. Economic development negotiations pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.087 (economic development).
- B. The purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072 (real property).

- C. Legal issues related to collective bargaining pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- D. Litigation matters involving the City including pending or contemplated litigation or settlement offers pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

### **RECONVENED**

Councilmember Sandoval reconvened the meeting at 6:00 pm and addressed Item 3.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

Deputy City Clerk Saenz read the caption for Item 3:

- 3. Public Hearing for the FY 2018 Action Plan and Budget for the four federal grant programs funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) which include the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program, HEARTH Emergency Solutions Grant (HESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Program. [Peter Zaroni, Deputy City Manager; Bridgett White, Director, Planning and Community Development]

Councilmember Sandoval opened the public hearing for the FY 2018 Action Plan and Budget for four federal grant programs funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). She called upon the citizens registered to speak.

Nazirite Ruben Flores Perez offered advice on making decisions and expressed support for the City Councilmembers.

Mark Perez expressed concern that funding was not being directed toward public safety and discussed crime in subsidized housing communities.

There being no other citizens registered to speak, Councilmember Sandoval closed the public hearing.

**CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

Councilmember Sandoval called upon the citizens registered to speak under citizens to be heard.

Cullen Jones expressed his opposition to Zoning Case #Z2017111 in Dignowity Hill and noted homeowner opposition to the case.

Liz Franklin discussed the Dignowity Hill Neighborhood Plan of 2009 and expressed concern with the zoning case in Dignowity Hill that was on the City Council Agenda of June 15, 2017.

Terry Burns identified himself as the Chair of Sierra Club in San Antonio and asked the City Council to support the Paris Accord.

Lulu Francois stated her opposition to Zoning Case # Z2017111 and discussed zoning designations in Dignowity Hill. She asked the City Council to deny the case.

Krystal Henagan identified herself as the head of the local chapter of Moms Clean Air Force. She discussed air pollution and its effects on children and asked the City Council to take action on climate issues.

Mark Perez noted concerns with the City's permitting process and the businesses operating throughout the city without the proper permits.

Nazirite Ruben Flores Perez discussed his previous work with the San Antonio River Authority and expressed support for Mayor-Elect Nirenberg.

Mario Bravo identified himself as the Texas Outreach Specialist for the Environmental Defense Fund. He thanked the Councilmembers for their commitment to taking action regarding climate change.

Greg Harman asked the Council to support the Paris Accord and create an action plan for climate change. He presented statements of support for the Paris Accord to the City Council.

Meredith McGuire presented a Sustainable Water Management Plan and asked the City Council to consider alternatives to the current structure of SAWS.

Gloria Hernandez identified herself as a descendant of Mission San Jose and expressed

opposition to the closure of San Jose Drive.

Peter Bella asked the City Council to create a Climate Action Plan.

Ruben Martinez asked the Council to make San Antonio the top green city in the country.

Elizabeth Montgomery noted her concerns with pollution in Texas and asked the City Council to take action regarding climate change.

Faris Hodge, Jr. submitted written testimony highlighting H-E-B's purchase of a northeast San Antonio manufacturing facility. He wrote that Bexar County should have a regional water district. He requested that the Mayor and Councilmembers should be subject to random drug tests.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further discussion, Councilmember Sandoval adjourned the meeting at 7:10 pm.

APPROVED

IVY R. TAYLOR  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

LETICIA M. VACEK, TRMC/CMC/MMC  
CITY CLERK