

**ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 1, 2018
1:30 PM
MEDIA BRIEFING ROOM**

Members Present:	Councilmember Rebecca Viagran, <i>Chair, District 3</i> Councilmember Shirley Gonzales, <i>District 5</i> Councilmember Manny Pelaez, <i>District 8</i> Councilmember John Courage, <i>District 9</i> Councilmember Clayton Perry, <i>District 10</i>
Members Absent:	None
Staff Present:	Peter Zaroni, <i>Deputy City Manager</i> ; Rod Sanchez, <i>Assistant City Manager</i> ; Stephanie Brosig, <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; Stephen Whitworth, <i>Assistant City Attorney</i> ; Rene Dominguez, <i>Director, Economic Development Department</i> ; Sherry Dowlatshahi, <i>Chief Diplomacy and Protocol Officer, International Relations Office, Economic Development Department</i> ; Denice F. Trevino, <i>Office of the City Clerk</i>
Others Present:	None

Call to Order

Chairperson Viagran called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of the Minutes from the April 3, 2018 Economic and Workforce Development Committee Meeting.

Councilmember Gonzales moved to approve the Minutes of the April 3, 2018 Economic and Workforce Development Council Committee Meeting. Councilmember Courage seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Briefing and Possible Action on:

2. Briefing on International Tricentennial Activities [Roderick Sanchez, Assistant City Manager; Rene Dominguez, Director, Economic Development]

Sherry Dowlatshahi stated that the International Relations Office (IRO) of the Economic Development Department:

- Serves as San Antonio's front door to the rest of the world
- Promotes the city to inbound Dignitaries
- Supports Elected Officials on Trade and Cultural Missions
- Advises local stakeholders on International Initiatives
- Manages official relationships around the world

She noted that the goals of the IRO were to:

- Elevate San Antonio's International Profile
- Leverage diplomatic, educational, and cultural initiatives to support economic development strategies

Ms. Dowlatshahi stated that everything that the IRO does supports the city's goals and strategies in terms of economic development. She stressed the importance of public, diplomatic and consular, and internal engagement. She stated that the City of San Antonio had:

- 11 Sister Cities
- 2 Friendship Cities
- 1 Economic Partnership

She noted that there were 111 individuals in San Antonio this week representing 16 countries, of which six were Sister Cities and one was an Economic Partnership. She noted that most delegations would be represented on May 3-4, 2018 with most delegations departing on May 5, 2018. She stated that the first Tricentennial Visitor came to San Antonio in January 2018 from Suzhou. She noted that Musical Bridges Around the World presented the Sister City Jazz Ensemble in February 2018. She stated that the highest level Canary Islands Delegation visited San Antonio in March 2018. She reviewed the various delegates to be represented during Commemorative Week and the dates of their corresponding events.

Councilmember Perry requested metrics for a future presentation. Mr. Dominguez stated that said metrics were available and would be presented.

Councilmember Pelaez requested an after action report.

Councilmember Gonzales stated that we should continue to work on how relationships were measured.

Councilmember Courage requested a meeting with staff to review missions.

Chairperson Viagran asked if delegate visits had been coordinated with Visit San Antonio. Ms. Dowlatshahi replied that they had.

No action was required for Item 2.

Adjourn

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:23 p.m.

Rebecca Viagran, Chairperson

Respectfully Submitted,

Denice F. Trevino