

**GOVERNANCE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 19, 2018 at 12:00 PM
MUNICIPAL PLAZA “B” ROOM**

Committee Present:	Mayor Ron Nirenberg, <i>Chair</i> Councilmember Roberto Treviño, <i>District 1</i> Councilmember Rebecca Viagran, <i>District 3</i> Councilmember Rey Saldaña, <i>District 4</i> Councilmember Ana Sandoval, <i>District 7</i>
Staff Present:	Councilmember Greg Brockhouse, <i>District 6</i> ; Councilmember Clayton Perry, <i>District 10</i> ; Sheryl Sculley, <i>City Manager</i> ; Andy Segovia, <i>City Attorney</i> ; Leticia Vacek, <i>City Clerk</i> ; William McManus, <i>Chief of Police</i> ; Carlos Contreras, <i>Assistant City Manager</i> ; Marisa Bono, <i>Mayor’s Staff</i> ; John Peterek, <i>Assistant to the City Manager</i> ; Jeff Coyle, <i>Government & Public Affairs Director</i> ; Heber Lefgren, <i>Animal Care Services Director</i> ; Veronica Soto, <i>Neighborhood & Housing Services Director</i> ; Melody Woosley & Edward Gonzales, <i>Department of Human Services</i> ; Michael Shannon & Melissa Ramirez, <i>Development Services Department</i> ; Lori Steward & Krystal Strong, <i>Human Resources Department</i> ; Camila Kunau, Ed Guzman, Lauren O’Connor, & David Kurpgeweit, <i>City Attorney’s Office</i> ; General Juan Ayala, Karen Rolirad, & Edward Brown, <i>Office of Military & Veterans Affairs</i> ; Norbert Dziuk, <i>Finance Department</i> ; Caitlin Krobot, <i>City Manager’s Office</i> ; Christopher Callanen, Emily McGinn, & Joe Van Kuiken, <i>Office of the City Council</i> ; Tim Salas, <i>District 4 Staff</i> ; Mario Hune, <i>District 6 Staff</i> ; Bianca Maldonado, <i>District 7 Staff</i> ; Derek Roberts, <i>District 9 Staff</i> ; Rebecca Podowski, <i>District 10 Staff</i> ; Lina Rodriguez, <i>Executive Assistant to the City Clerk</i> ;
Others Present:	Josh Baugh, <i>San Antonio Express News</i> ; Iris Dimmick, <i>Rivard Report</i> ; Francisco Garza, <i>Attorney</i> ; Dave Peterson, <i>Citizen</i>

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Nirenberg called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of the Minutes from the City Council Governance Committee Meetings of June 20, 2018 and August 1, 2018.

Councilmember Sandoval moved to approve the Minutes from the City Council Governance Committee Meetings of June 20, 2018 and August 1, 2018. Councilmember Saldaña seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. A briefing and possible action on a Council Consideration Request from Councilmember Clayton Perry, District 10, regarding a review of current veteran initiatives and military programs. [Carlos Contreras, Assistant City Manager, Jeff Coyle, Director].

General Juan Ayala briefed the Committee on a Council Consideration Request (CCR) submitted by Councilmember Clayton Perry. The CCR requested a comprehensive review of current City Veteran Initiatives and Military Programs. The Office of Military and Veterans Affairs (OMVA) convened meetings with City Departments to identify current practices related to Veteran hiring preferences, internship/fellowship opportunities, affordable housing, educational opportunities, Public-Public/Public-Private (P4) Partnerships, and Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) preparations.

General Ayala noted that City Departments including Human Resources, Finance, and Human Services offer a number of support services/opportunities to all Veteran City employees and Non-City employees. In addition, the City has partnered with the Military in a number of areas such as P4, provision of services and infrastructure improvements, etc. He noted that the review is intended to ensure the City is doing all it can to support the Military and our Veterans.

Staff recommended that the City continue to strengthen their relationship with the Military in the San Antonio Region by supporting Active Duty, Retirees, Veterans, and their families; with the ultimate goal stated in the CCR, to establish San Antonio as the number one city for Veterans to retire and remain in the community.

Councilmember Perry thanked the Governance Council Committee for hearing his item. He reiterated that San Antonio has proclaimed itself Military City USA and as such, we must support our current active duty military personnel, Veterans, as well as their spouses and families. He noted a statistic regarding the unemployment rate for female spouses of active military being 18%. He asked City staff to focus efforts on spouses to see an improvement on this statistic. He also suggested more outreach and advertisement of current City Veteran Initiatives and Military Programs.

Mayor Nirenberg thanked Councilmember Perry and noted that a briefing would be brought before the full City Council at a B Session at a later date.

No action was necessary for Item 2. Item 3 was addressed at this time.

3. A briefing and possible action on a Council Consideration Request from Councilmember Greg Brockhouse, District 6, on possible Good Samaritan protections for residents that take action to protect children and animals unattended in vehicles. [Erik Walsh, Deputy City Manager; William McManus, Chief of Police].

Chief William McManus reported that in the last State Legislative Session, House Bill 401 failed to pass. He noted that House Bill 401 would have addressed all concerns noted in the CCR submitted by Councilmember Greg Brockhouse. The CCR requests a review of City Policy and the consideration of creating provisions “that would provide for a ‘Good Samaritan’ defense for residents that take necessary and prudent action in cases where children or domestic animals are left unattended in a motor vehicle or inclement weather to relieve the threat of danger.” Chief McManus noted that the City Attorney’s Office was reviewing existing ordinances in other major Texas Cities to determine if protections granted to public safety personnel are offered to residents. In addition, a review of existing state law is being conducted to determine the protections offered to Good Samaritans and what actions could be taken by the City. Chief McManus recommended that said item be forwarded to the October Public Safety Council Committee Meeting.

Mayor Nirenberg recognized Councilmember Brockhouse who addressed the Governance Council Committee and thanked them for hearing this item. He noted that the CCR arose from getting calls in his office from constituents who had seen animals and/or children in vehicles. He requested that this item be forwarded to the Public Safety Council Committee and incorporated into the City's next Legislative Agenda.

Mayor Nirenberg recognized Heber Lefgren, Director of Animal Care Services (ACS) stated the need to find the correct balance between the City's need to protect animals while making sure that the City has a clear definition of cruelty.

Councilmember Viagran inquired about why House Bill 401 did not pass. Jeff Coyle stated that it is extremely difficult to pass Animal Care legislation which usually is not a top priority. He noted that he would have more specific answers when the item is brought before the Public Safety Council Committee. Councilmember Viagran asked who would be called if a resident sees an animal or child in a vehicle. Mr. Lefgren responded that anyone could call 311 for animals in vehicles and 911 for children in vehicles.

Councilmember Saldaña thanked Councilmember Brockhouse for submitting the CCR which provides another layer of protection to those most vulnerable in our community, including children and animals. He noted his approval of forwarding said item to the Public Safety Council Committee.

Councilmember Viagran moved to forward said item to the Public Safety Council Committee Meeting in October. Councilmember Sandoval seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. A briefing and possible action on establishing exemptions to the City Council Project Fund election year moratorium that would accommodate non-branded wellness events and arts, cultural and heritage events. [John Peterek, Assistant to the City Manager, Christopher Callanen, Assistant to City Council].

Assistant to City Council Christopher Callanen presented recommended exemptions to the City Council Project Fund (CCPF) election year moratorium that would accommodate non-branded wellness events and arts, cultural, and heritage events. As background, he noted that the City Council Office began administering the CCPF in January 2012 to support events and programs that promote: (1) the health, safety and welfare of the community; (2) family, social and economic stability; (3) community fitness and recreation; and (4) community education and training.

Mr. Callanen reported that the ordinance governing the use of the CCPF was updated in November 2013. Updates included better defining eligible expenses; established that any allocation of \$10,000 or more for a single project requires City Council approval; established that no more than \$10,000 of unallocated funds can be carried forward into a future Fiscal Year; and established an Election Year Moratorium that begins with the first day of the filing period and ends when the election is canvassed by City Council. In the event of Run-Off Elections, the moratorium continues for those offices until canvassing.

Mr. Callanen noted that with the current policy, wellness activities and arts, cultural, and heritage events that are supported annually with the CCPF have to be rescheduled or postponed during election years due to the moratorium. Staff recommended creating an exemption to the CCPF election year moratorium to allow the funding of wellness, arts, cultural, and heritage events requested by entities or agencies but with no branded materials with elected officials' names or logos.

Mayor Nirenberg noted his approval of the new exemptions to the CCPF.

Councilmember Saldaña noted his approval of the new exemptions to the CCPF and stated his approval of the non-branded events that are requested by non-profit entities and agencies requesting CCPF monies. Councilmember Viagran also noted her approval of the new exemptions to the CCPF.

Councilmember Saldaña moved to forward staff's recommendation for exemptions to the CCPF during the election year moratorium to allow wellness, arts, cultural, and heritage events. Said item would be placed on the Regular City Council Meeting of September 20, 2018. Councilmember Treviño seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Nirenberg recessed the meeting into Executive Session at 12:54 pm to discuss the following:

- A. Deliberate the appointment, evaluation and duties of public officers and discuss legal issues pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074 (personnel matters) and Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- B. Legal issues relating to contemplated or anticipated litigation involving Zoning Board of Adjustment decisions pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

RECONVENED

Mayor Nirenberg reconvened the meeting at 1:21 pm and announced that no action was taken in Executive Session.

Next Scheduled Meeting: October 17, 2018.

Mayor Nirenberg reported that the next Governance City Council Committee Meeting would be held on October 17, 2018.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Mayor Nirenberg adjourned the meeting at 1:38 pm.

ATTEST:

Ron Nirenberg, Mayor

***Leticia M. Vacek, TRMC/CMC/MMC
City Clerk***