State of Texas
County of Bexar
City of San Antonio

FINAL

Meeting Minutes

City Council B Session

City Hall Complex
105 Main Plaza
San Antonio, Texas 78205

Wednesday, June 29, 2016 **2:00 PM** **Municipal Plaza Building**

The City Council of San Antonio convened in the "B" Room of the Municipal Plaza Building. City Clerk Leticia Vacek took the Roll Call with the following Councilmembers present:

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

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Mayor Taylor stated that General LaBrutta was being promoted and moving outside of San Antonio and recognized him for his Outstanding Leadership in the San Antonio Community. General LaBrutta thanked Mayor Taylor and the City Council for the recognition and stated that he had been pleased with the great partnership with the City of San Antonio. He stated that upon completion of his Military Service, he would return home to San Antonio. Mayor Taylor and the City Council wished General LaBrutta well in his future endeavors.

1. A Briefing on the joint Alamo Master Plan effort. [Lori Houston, Assistant City Manager]

Mrs. Sculley provided introductory remarks noting that she and Councilmember Treviño served on the Management Committee along with representatives from the Texas General Land Office and the Alamo Endowment. She stated that The Alamo was one of Five Missions receiving the World Heritage Designation and that the City of San Antonio had committed funding to improve Alamo Plaza.

Councilmember Treviño stated that The Alamo was the Historic Core of the City of San Antonio and that it was their goal to create a respectful place that tells the story of the people and culture that have played in role in shaping the Alamo's History. He introduced Mr. Gene Powell.

Mr. Gene Powell stated that he was excited with the Alamo Master Plan effort and spoke of their work thus far. He noted that it was a complicated project that needed a great amount of involvement and support. He showed a video featuring Red McCombs highlighting the importance of the project. Mr. Powell recognized George Skarmeas of Preservation Design Partnership (PDP).

Mr. Skarmeas stated that PDP was a Nationally Recognized Planning, Design, and Architecture Practice specializing in Heritage Planning and Design established in 1995. He noted that they reorganized in 2010 to allow for a strategic expansion to pursue projects Nationally and Internationally. He mentioned that they had successfully planned, designed, and delivered projects in multiple States and the District of Columbia. He stated that the Project Team consisted of himself and his wife, Dominique Hawkins. He explained their work as Thought Leadership, Master Planning, Architecture, and Historic Preservation. He noted that they worked exclusively in Historic Settings ranging from Large Urban Projects to "Jewel Interventions." He added that their work had been recognized with over 35 National, Regional, State, and Local Awards of Planning, Design, Architecture, and Preservation Excellence. He provided an overview of the Contracted and Proposed Professionals that would be part of the Project Team and showed photos of previous projects they have worked on.

Mr. Skarmeas presented information on Alamo Plaza to include current photos of the area. He noted that The Alamo was a World Heritage Site and they would observe the highest standards of Heritage Planning and Design. He stated that all cultural layers and stories would be understood and presented, and that they would offer sensible, sensitive, and sustainable solutions of long lasting value. He outlined their approach that would be based on Historic Research, Evidence, and Scientific Analysis. He noted that they would utilize clear Guiding Principles and ensure there was a great amount of public engagement. He stated that their vision was to properly present all "stories," as well as recognize and respect sacrifices and loss of lives. He added that they would have to rediscover The Alamo before

they could reimagine it.

Mr. Skarmeas stated that Reconciling was an important issue and that they would have to decipher Historic Puzzles. He spoke of the various layers they were seeking and the Archaeological Work that would be performed. He outlined the preliminary project schedule and stated that their goal was to achieve a delicate balance between Outstanding Universal Values and Texas Historic Values.

Mayor Taylor thanked Mr. Skarmeas for the presentation and recognized Mr. Powell and the Advisory Committee for their great work thus far. She stated that she was excited and inspired by the information presented and asked of public engagement. Mr. Skarmeas replied that they would begin reviewing the work that has been assembled thus far by the Advisory Group. He stated that they would hold public sessions to gather feedback, as well as keep the public informed of findings and ideas. Mayor Taylor recognized State Senator Jose Menendez who was in attendance.

Councilmember Viagran stated that she was pleased with the deliberate and intentional presentation and they were taking the right steps forward. She spoke of the remaining Missions that were also part of the World Heritage Designation and noted the importance of telling the stories of the community. She stated that public input should also be gathered through face-to-face interaction since many individuals did not have access to the Internet or Social Media. She asked of the location of the acequias and how they would translate to Alamo Plaza. Nesta Anderson of Pape Dawson stated that during the first round of Archaeology, they would look at the acequia that runs along what is known as the Crockett Block Buildings. Kay Hindes, City Archaeologist, stated that they have identified part of the routes through previous Archaeological Excavations conducted.

Councilmember Krier recognized Mr. Powell and spoke to the importance of getting this project done right. He asked how they would integrate all of the information after the discovery period. Mr. Skarmeas stated that he was confident that the site would provide answers and guide them moving forward. He noted that the right partners were in place and that they would find the right design. Councilmember Krier asked of the amount of funding that would be needed. Mr. Powell stated that they were working on multiple tracts and that they would solicit funds from the City, Bond Program, and State, as well as through Fundraising Efforts. He noted that they would be in Austin in the Fall to visit with Legislators regarding the need for funding.

Councilmember Saldaña thanked Mr. Skarmeas and asked why this project was more challenging than others. Mr. Skarmeas replied that this project was about History, Emotion, and Expectations and that people wanted to see something transformational. He noted the

complex layers of History and the many Dimensions to include Church, Traditions, Secularization, War, Death, Life, and Celebration.

Councilmember Warrick asked if this process would have an impact on the other Missions. Mr. Skarmeas stated that they expected that there would be dialogue between this Mission and the others to gain an understanding of how they would be connected. Councilmember Warrick asked of unexpected outcomes from previous projects. Mr. Skarmeas replied that he had learned not to make any assumptions and to prepare for the unexpected. He added that one issue they had in every project was the unknown amount of funding needed.

Councilmember Gonzales stated that San Antonio was very unique and she would like for its Historic Significance to be engrained within the community. She noted that she would like for The Alamo to be a part of the city and not only a tourist destination. She asked if there was any coordination with the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Skarmeas stated that they were going through the components of the Comprehensive Plan and would ensure coordination among the two plans.

Councilmember Nirenberg thanked everyone for their work thus far and stated that he hoped that the end result would be as historically accurate as possible. Mayor Taylor thanked everyone for the presentation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Taylor recessed the meeting into Executive Session at 4:12 pm to discuss the following:

A. Deliberations regarding economic development negotiations and discuss related legal issues pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.087 (economic development) and 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

B. Deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property and discuss related legal issues pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.072 (real property) and 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

C. Discuss legal issues related to collective bargaining pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

D. Discuss legal issues relating to ongoing litigation in Frio Nevado Corporation d/b/a

Go-Professional Environmental Management v. City of San Antonio, Cause Number 2016-CI-08174 in the 285th Judicial District, Bexar County, Texas pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

E. Deliberate issues related to the San Antonio Public Safety Radio System pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.076 (security devices and audits) and 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

F. Deliberate the appointment, employment, and duties of a public officer or employee and discuss legal issues pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074 (personnel matters) and Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

RECONVENED

Mayor Taylor reconvened the meeting at 6:00 pm and announced that no action had been taken in Executive Session.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mayor Taylor called the citizens registered to speak.

Mark Perez expressed concern with the businesses operating without the proper permits to include the AGE Refinery Building. He noted that various staff of the Fire Department had not responded to his requests.

Michele Alexander expressed concern with the lack of medical care for the animals at the Animal Care Services (ACS) Facility. She referenced an issue with an animal being transported to Oklahoma for adoption that had two femur fractures and a fractured pelvis.

Deanna Lee expressed concern with the amount of animals that have died at the ACS Facility and on city streets this past year. She noted that the community needed to support ACS in their efforts and stated that they needed additional funding to implement a serious Spay/Neuter Program.

Mark Kellman stated that he was an Architect in San Antonio and presented a conceptual diagram of Alamo Plaza. He noted the importance of access to the area and stated that they should make the architectural experience more cohesive.

John Bachman addressed the City Council and stated that he had made many suggestions

for ACS over the past 15 years. He noted that progress had been made but there were still too many animals being euthanized. He added that they should focus their efforts on keeping animals from breeding in order to get a better handle on the issue.

Nazirite Ruben Flores Perez spoke of medical issues that he has been enduring. He stated that he was supportive of the Service Provider Agreements related to the San Antonio Early Head Start Child Care Partnership Program (Item 35 on the next day's City Council Agenda) but would like to see the curriculum.

Columba Wilson spoke of children with disabilities and stated that they needed funding to address same. She noted that she was raising her grandson who had disabilities and expressed concern with the police brutality that many of these children endure.

Written testimony was submitted by Faris Hodge, Jr. regarding Bexar County paying $200,000 for a jail death that occurred. He wrote that child support was getting out of hand and submitted an article titled, "Why is the US Army cutting troops?" He wrote of the dangers of stress and noted that Pope Benedict called on Catholics not to cast stones.

RECESSED

Mayor Taylor announced that the Executive Session would reconvene the next day after the Business Portion of the meeting. There being no further discussion, Mayor Taylor recessed the meeting at 6:35 pm.

APPROVED

IVY R. TAYLOR
MAYOR

ATTEST:

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