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HISPANIC/LATINO QUALITY OF LIFE RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING September 24, 2014 MINUTES

The Hispanic/Latino Quality of Life Resource Advisory Commission convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday September 24, 2014 at the Street Jones Building at 1000 E. 11th Street, Austin, Texas 78702.

The Board Meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Frank Rodriguez, SolAna Renteria, Diego Martinez-Moncada, Emilio Zamora and Martha Cotera
Board Members Absent: Alicia Del Rio, Jose Velasquez

Staff in Attendance: Ray Baray, Assistant to the City Manager
Jason Garza, Assistant to the Assistant City Manager

1. **Approval of Minutes**

   A motion was made by Commissioner Zamora and seconded by Commissioner Renteria to approve the minutes. The Commission approved the minutes from August 27, 2014 unanimously.

2. **Citizens Communication**

   The following citizens signed up for citizen communication:
   - **Ernesto Calderon – MACC and Culture Activities**
   - **Carl Webb – Community Engagement and Voter Outreach**
   - **Jill Ramirez - General**

3. **Discussion and possible action regarding the designation of the property lot at 600 River Street and 64 Rainey Street as dedicated parkland.**

   Ricardo Soliz with the Parks and Recreation department gave a brief presentation on the current designations for the City owned property at 600 River Street and 64 Rainey. In his presentation, Mr. Soliz also discussed 58 Rainey Street and its current designation. Mr. Soliz went on further to discuss the work being done by staff with regards to the Rainey Street History Center and gave staff assessment to three identified properties. Commissioners asked staff if they had received feedback from the MACC board and feedback was received on 600 River Street and 64 and 58 Rainey. The MACC Board made a recommendation to designate the properties as dedicated parkland. Staff stated that they are in support and will begin the process of designated 600 River Street and 58 Rainey as dedicated parkland. They are still assessing 64 Rainey once they have heard feedback from stakeholders on the Rainey Street History Center. A motion was made by Commissioner Zamora to support the MACC Board's recommendation on the land surrounding the MACC. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cotera. The motion was approved unanimously with Commissioners Velasquez and Del Rio off the dais.

4. **Discussion and possible action for the future use of the property lot and air space at 64 Rainey**

Street. (Ricardo Soliz, Division Manager, Parks and Recreation)

The item was postponed to the next regular meeting of the Hispanic/Latino Quality of Life Resource Advisory Commission.

5. Update and discussion on the 2014-2015 approved City of Austin budget.

Staff gave a brief overview of the backup given that showed the budget amendments that were adopted by the City Council in the FY 2104-2015 budget. There were two recommendations that were adopted by Council from the HLQL Commission list of budget priorities. Chair Rodriguez then gave an overview of the process the Council took to approve amendments to the budget and the amount of money that the Council was working from. Discussion commenced between the Commissioners and it was suggested that the group begin earlier in the year to vet out recommendations that will be sent to Council in the hopes that more will be included.

6. Update and discussion on the work and issues currently being discussed by the Commission on Immigrant Affairs

Angela-Jo Touza-Medina, Vice-Chair, Commission on Immigrant Affairs and Ben Ramirez with the City's Economic Development Department presented the Commission with information on the work that is currently being done by the Commission on Immigrant Affairs, specifically the Welcoming City Initiative. An overview of the initiative was given, reasons why it is significant to be a welcoming city, demographics of the total population of foreign born living in Travis County and the public process that will be undertaken moving forward to develop a shared vision of what "welcoming" means. The initiative is projected to be completed by summer of 2015. Discussion and questions occurred between the presenters and commissioners.

7. Discussion of future agenda items.

Staff notified the Commission that at the next meeting, there must be an item to discuss election of officers. Also, there will be an item to give a formal recommendation on the location of the Rainey Street History Center. It was requested that there be an item for discussion and action to ask other entities like the City to create similar bodies such as the Hispanic/Latino Quality of Life Advisory Commission. There was also a request to have a discussion item on affordability and to have the City Demographer give a presentation on the status of Latinos in Austin.

8. Adjournment

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Martinez-Moncada to adjourn the meeting. This was seconded by Commissioner Renteria. The Commission approved the motion unanimously. The Meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm.