

**HARLINGEN COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT BOARD
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING
FEBRUARY 28, 2011**

A meeting of the Harlingen Community Improvement Board of Directors was held on Monday, February 28, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. in Town Hall, City Hall, 118 E. Tyler Street, Harlingen, Texas. Those in attendance were:

Present:

Jesse Robles – Vice President
Daniel Araiza
Gina L. Cano-Monreal
Dean LaFever
Joe Rubio

Absent:

Paul J. Durant
Rick Caballero

City Commission present:

Mayor Boswell
Gus Ruiz, Commissioner District 1
Kori Marra, Commissioner District 3

Staff Present:

Carlos Yerena, City Manager
Gabriel Gonzalez, Assistant City Manager
Roxann Pais Cotroneo, City Attorney
Roel Gutierrez, Director of Finance
Elena Garza, Assistant City Secretary

J. Robles called the meeting to order and stated the agenda had been posted accordingly.

ITEM NO. 1 – MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 25, 2010 TABLED.

Gabriel Gonzalez, Assistant City Manager pointed out Page 3, Line 35 thru Page 4, Line 21 should be deleted from the minutes. Subsequently, Item 5, Item 6 and all the other items should follow as presented on the minutes.

Gina Cano-Monreal pointed out that the Veterans Project discussion was held.

Mr. Gonzalez stated it was not held on the February 25, 2010 meeting, yet it was on the July 14, 2010 agenda.

Joe Rubio stated if the presentation did not happen at the last meeting, then that section of the minutes will be removed.

Mr. Gonzales replied that is correct, the minutes reflecting that presentation will be removed.

A brief discussion followed on the correction of the minutes.

Roxann Cotroneo, City Attorney suggested having the Assistant City Secretary review the February 25, 2010 minutes before they are approved.

Gabriel Gonzalez instructed the Board to table item for the next meeting.

Jesse Robles pointed out a correction on Page 1 with Board attendance. He wanted the minutes to reflect that he was absent at that meeting.

Joe Rubio made a motion to table the minutes for the next meeting. Dean LaFever seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**ITEM NO. 2 – PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATUS FOR MONTH
ENDING JANUARY 31, 2011 AND SEPTEMBER 30, 2010**

Roel Gutierrez reported on the financial reports for September 30, 2010. He reported cash assets of \$1,282,880. Accounts receivable from sales tax are at \$88,089. Total assets are \$1,370,969 which is also the Fund Balance. Total Revenues that came in are at \$89,038 and year to date totals are at \$1,140,158. The total Expenditures are \$173,326. with the year to date Fund Balance of \$1,370,969.

The January 31, 2011 total assets are \$1,781,526 which is also the Fund Balance with no liabilities. Statement of revenues on sales tax is \$129,160 with year to date revenue totals of \$410,557. There were no expenditures for the year. The year to date Fund Balance was \$1,781,526.

Joe Rubio asked for the percentage breakdown that is generated by the 4B Board.

Roel Gutierrez replied 1/8 of one cent. The City receives a total of two cents from the sales tax revenues.

Joe Rubio made a motion to approve the financials ending September 30, 2010 and January 31, 2010. Dean LaFever seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**ITEM NO. 3 – PUBLIC HEARING BY THE HARLINGEN COMMUNITY
IMPROVEMENT BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DEVELOPMENT
ACT OF 1979, ARTICLE 5190.6, SECTION 4B (N) TO HEAR COMMENTS FOR
OR AGAINST FUNDING THE FOLLOWING PROPOSED PROJECT:**

A. PROJECT 2011-01 – FUNDING THE CITY’S MATCH FOR THE TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT 25TH STREET PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE TRAIL.

Gabriel Gonzalez explained that when the 4B Board is considering funding a project a public hearing must be conducted. This public hearing is to meet those requirements of the statute.

The City has applied for a 2.8 million grant for the 25th Pedestrian and Bicycle Trail. The grant has been approved by TxDOT. Total cost of the project is 2.6 million and TxDOT is funding 80% of the project. The City’s portion is a 20% match which is approximately \$525,000. The City is asking assistance from the Board to fund their 20% match.

Paul Menzies, Parks and Recreation Director gave a brief overview on the layout of how the trail will run. The trail will need right-of-way easements that the City will have to acquire from the Irrigation District. Eventually, the easements will be returned back to TxDOT to maintain. TxDOT will be handling most of the project starting with the bid of the project and overseeing the construction which will take from one year to eighteen months.

Gabriel Gonzalez stated the Irrigation District has agreed to provide the easements for the project.

Roxann Cotroneo, City Attorney stated that State Law provides the types of projects that 4B Corporations are allowed to fund. This trail is one of those projects.

Mr. Gonzalez informed the Board one important factor to consider is that this is a TxDOT funded project and they will be overseeing the RFQ and selection process and the construction process.

Commissioner Marra suggested involving the 4B Board to joint meetings with the Parks Board and any other meetings involving any type of projects that are being discussed.

Roxann Cotroneo, City Attorney stated the Commissioner’s point is well taken. She stated there was a formal presentation given by the Company who put the Park Trail Master Plan together. She doesn’t recall this presentation been presented to the 4B Board. She suggested the 4B Board be provided with the presentation so they can be informed of what type of project they are working with.

Gabriel Gonzalez stated he could arrange with the consulting firm that prepared the study to make the presentation to the Board, if that is what they wish.

Jesse Robles asked for the consensus from the Board.

Mr. Gonzalez suggested the Board take action on this time tonight and arrange for a presentation at a later date.

Jesse Robles suggested it would be of best interest for the Board to view the presentation. It will be the Board's decision if they want to approve the funding tonight.

Mr. Robles declared the public hearing open

With no public comments the public hearing closed.

ITEM NO. 4 – ACTION TAKEN TO AUTHORIZE THE ABOVE NOTED PROJECT 2011-01 AND FUNDING APPROVED FOR THE CITY'S MATCH FOR THE TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT 25TH STREET PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE TRAIL.

D. LaFever made a motion to approve the City's match of \$524,762.00 for the Transportation Enhancement 25th Street Pedestrian and Bicycle Trail. G. Cano-Monreal seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ITEM NO. 5 – TABLED PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED VETERANS MEMORIAL PROJECT

J. Rubio made a motion to table the item on the Veterans Memorial Project. G. Cano-Montreal seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ITEM NO. 6 – APPROVED THE 2010-2011 BUDGET AMENDMENTS.

Roel Gutierrez, Finance Director stated that this budget amendment will add \$700,000 to the Harlingen Community Improvement Board's expenditures for Project 2009-01 'Furnishing and Equipping the University Articulation and Career Center at TSTC'. This project was approved by the HCIB Board at its February 25, 2010 meeting but the funds were not expensed in Fiscal Year 2010 and need to be carried over to this year's budget. The second amendment of \$525,000 (Item No. 4 that was just approved) will be moved from the current budgeted line item "Unallocated Projects" into its own line item for Project 2011-01 'Match for Transportation Enhancement 25th Street Pedestrian and Bicycle Trail'.

Adam Hutchison, Chief of Staff at Texas State Technical College gave a brief report on the Articulation Center at TSTC. He explained this is a joint project and TSTC is funding 44% of the mass of the building located on Loop 499. They are working with the technology that is going into this building and separating it between what this Board is investing and what TSTC is providing. He pointed to the spreadsheet that was provided to the Board and stated that all the items that were listed above the yellow highlight items total to \$692,977. They appreciate the commitment that the City has made to building this facility and also to the Board for funding some of the technology that is going into this project.

Mayor Boswell stated that the 4B Board approves the allocation and the budget is approved by the City Commission.

Mr. Gonzalez replied it is scheduled for this Wednesday's meeting to amend the City's budget and this allocation falls within the City.

Mr. Hutchinson informed the Board the University Articulation Center building should be ready for occupancy in late June or early July and classes are anticipated to start in the fall. There are currently eight universities and 5 public and 3 private universities that have committed to participate. This will be a tremendous asset to the City of Harlingen and TSTC appreciates the Board's consideration.

J. Rubio made a motion to approve the 2010-2011 budget amendments. D. Araiza seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**ITEM NO. 7 – SELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR TERMS ENDING
SEPTEMBER 2011**

Gabriel Gonzalez explained that the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer have to be appointed.

Roxann Cotroneo stated that pursuant to state law it mandates that the President and Secretary are mandatory appointments and the other if deemed necessary. She recommends appointed all four appointments.

Dean LaFever asked if there was a requirement on the length of a term to service on the Board.

Ms. Cotroneo replied state law requires directors to serve two-year terms.

Commissioner Marra explained when she was a member of this board; she and other members received training to serve on the Board. She stated that Paul Durant and Jesse Robles have received that training. She recommends that one of them take the leadership responsibilities.

Ms. Cotroneo informed Commissioner Marra that the Secretary of State still shows her as a director on the 4B Board and the state filings need to be changed to reflect that she is no longer a member.

J. Rubio made a motion to appoint Jesse Robles as President. D. LaFever seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

D. LaFever made a motion to appoint Paul Durant as Vice President. G. Cano-Monreal seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

J. Rubio made a motion to appoint Gina Cano-Monreal as Secretary. D. LaFever seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

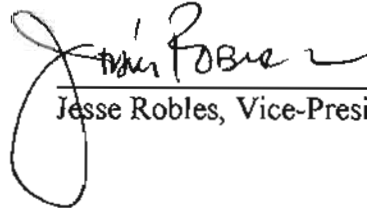
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D. Araiza made a motion to appoint Dean LaFever as Treasurer. G. Cano-Monreal seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Gabriel Gonzalez informed that Board there will be an annual meeting next month, March.

Joe Rubio recommended adding a 'training session' item for the next meeting.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.



Jesse Robles, Vice-President

Attest:



Elena Garza, Interim City Secretary