HemisFair Pak Area Redevelopment Corporation
Board Of Directors Monthly Meeting
Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center
Executive Assembly Conference Center
January 14, 2010
8:00 a.m.


COSA Attendance: Pat DiGiovanni, Lori Houston, Paula Stallcup, Rod Sanchez, and Anna Galimore

Additional Attendance: Marisa Anuja (Instituto de Mexico), Aaron Parks (UTSA-ITC), Richard Rosen (Magik Theatre), Carlton Quick (Tower of the Americas), Baltazar Serna (Attorney for Landry), Steve Golden (Drenner & Golden), Mark Sullivan (Texpo 2020), and Sonia Jimenez (Ximenes & Associates.)

A. Call to Order
   Madison Smith, HPARC President, called the meeting to order at approximately 8:12 a.m.

B. Approval of December 14, 2010 Meeting Notes
   Mr. Smith asked if the board members had an opportunity to review the notes and if they had any comments or amendments. Sonia Jimenez stated that a couple of board members submitted their minor changes to her but nothing substantive was noted. Sue Ann Pemberton made a motion to approve them as corrected and Xavier Gonzalez seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor and none opposed.

C. Nomination and Appointment of a board member for the officer position of Secretary
   Mr. Smith asked board members to let him know if they are interested. Sue Ann Pemberton and Xavier Gonzalez have submitted their names as nominees. The board will take action next month.

D. Director's Report
   Pat DiGiovanni stated there was nothing new to report. He added he is very pleased with the meetings occurring this week.

E. Committee Updates
   1. Executive Committee
      Mr. Smith reported his committee is occupied with the CEO selection. He intends to have a recommendation by the end of the month. His committee is also working with the consultants and the rest of the board on the master planning effort.

   2. Communications Committee
      Debra Guerrero was unavailable to attend the board meeting. Lori Houston reported the
committee is working with Johnson Fain and RJ Rivera Associates on the master planning effort. Both firms did a wonderful job at the first public meeting and the second is scheduled for February 24th. The next round of stakeholder interviews will be conducted and Ms. Houston will ensure that current HemisFair tenants are included.

3. Cultural and Civic Committee
Xavier Gonzalez reported he attended the public meeting and lots of cultural and civic ideas were brought forward. He is looking forward to the next steps as these ideas are processed.

4. Finance Committee
Art Hall reported the San Antonio Area Foundation contract is close to be finalized. The budget is near completion and the procurement policy should be completed in the next week.

5. Historic Committee
Sue Ann Pemberton reported her committee has not met and there is nothing new to report.

6. Planning and Development Committee
Bill Shown reported the planning team has been meeting with the other committees and stakeholders. The public meeting had a great turnout of over 300 people. Johnson and Fain is beginning to understand San Antonio and its character. Daniel Lopez inquired about the possibility of accommodating the public meeting attendees who want to be more involved. Mr. Shown suggested some type of committees could be created around the themes generated from the public meeting. David Zachry agreed that the board needs to determine how to add richness to the community concepts so the results are part of the master plan. Mr. Hall stated the result needs to be good for the park and not just downtown. Lisa Schmidt suggested encouraging registration and have a plan for late registration so everyone has a name tag. Mr. Gonzalez also suggested more staff support with clear identifiers to easily pick them out of the crowd. Mr. Smith added the public meeting was a great launch and the importance of moving forward together with the public.

The information from the first public meeting will be compiled over the next couple of weeks and developed into a report. The draft plan is scheduled for submittal in the March/April timeframe. The draft will include alternatives and will be available for board review. Collectively over 500 organizations and boards have participated either at meetings or stakeholder sessions. Mr. Shown suggested the board meet with the consultants before the February public meeting to contribute and share ideas.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**F. Briefing and possible action on renaming Bowie Street, from Market to East Durango, to Tower of the Americas Way**
Rod Sanchez, COSA Development Services Director, gave a brief presentation regarding the renaming of the street. Mr. Sanchez explained that Landry’s requested the name change.
City councilwoman Mary Alice Cisneros recommended the request be evaluated. The evaluation concluded there is no clear connection from the west to this portion of Bowie and there are only two addresses, the City of San Antonio and the Tower of the Americas, and the US Postal Service has no objections. Mayor Castro asked for a public process to include the HPARC Board’s input. A public meeting is scheduled for January 19th at the City One Stop Center. After the public process is complete, then the item will be considered by the City Council sometime in February. Landry’s has agreed to pay for all costs associated with the street name change. Mr. Sanchez concluded by saying the name change is positive interim step for better way finding until the master plan is complete. City staff supports the name change and will recommend approval to council barring anything significant comes up during the public process.

Carlton Quick, Landry’s Property General Manager for the Tower of the America’s, then introduced himself to the board. He explained that Landry’s has invested upwards of $20 million in the property and it would be beneficial to have the street renamed. He went on to explain that with the completion of the Grand Hyatt, pedestrians cannot see the Tower from the corner of Market and Bowie and a large number of calls to the restaurant are directional. Many people do not know that Bowie extends past Market Street. Mr. Quick would like to work with the board to determine an adequate solution for the problem and increase visibility to the Tower and the park.

The board asked Mr. Quick questions about price and the possibility of using more signs instead of changing the street name. The cost associated is a few hundred dollars and even with the use of GPS, the directions are not accurate. Additional questions included parking for Tower patrons and other alternatives considered as well as significance of the timing. Mr. Quick explained there is a dedicated parking garage on this portion of Bowie and in terms of timing, he has been trying to solve this problem since the construction started on the Grand Hyatt four and half years ago. There were several comments related to Mr. Quick not attending any previous board meetings and Mrs. Pemberton noted from a historical perspective, to change the street name frustrates history.

Pat DiGiovanni added that the City feels badly that this issue is not already resolved. However, he, acting as the HPARC Interim Executive Director, ultimately suggested the request be put on hold until the master plan is complete and see what can be done to promote access and way finding. Xavier Gonzalez made a motion to support Mr. DiGiovanni’s suggestion and Bill Shown seconded it. The motion passed. Mr. Quick thanked the board for their time and apologized for making any of the members upset at his not attending previous meetings.

**PRESENTERS**

**F. Citizens to be Heard**

Mark Sullivan of 1113 E. Houston Street is biomedical engineer and inventor. Mr. Sullivan introduced his idea for HemisFair as “Texpo 2020”. He explained the idea as a novel unique exposition that can be transformative and have lasting prosperity for San Antonio. The exposition would attract over 700 million virtual and physical visitors. This endeavor could get San Antonio certified for the World Fair. The World’s Fair would run for two years and
the new industries created will remain and compliment the existing industries in the area. Thereafter, an annual “county” fair would showcase new industries. Scholarships, economic benefit, and educational opportunities are expected to result from the Texpo 2020 initiative.

Sonia Jimenez, with Ximenes & Associates, who provides board support for meetings, took a few minutes to offer her thanks to the board for the opportunity to assist them. Her contract is scheduled to end this month.

G. Board Member Comments

Xavier Gonzalez inquired about the board vacancy created with Andres Andujar’s resignation. Mr. Smith stated the mayor and city council officially fill this position. The position currently open is intended to represent downtown businesses. Any nominations from the board are welcome and can be sent to Mr. Smith or Bill Shown.

H. Executive Session

There was not an executive session held.

J. Adjournment

The meeting was officially adjourned at approximately 9:46 a.m.