



Hemisfair Park Area Redevelopment Corporation
Board Meeting Minutes
September 8th, 2023
8:30am-10:00am

Board Members in Attendance:

Cara DeAnda, Chair
Juan Landa, Vice Chair
Lucio Cantu
Francisco Gonima
Sue Ann Pemberton
Lori Houston
Martha Martinez-Flores

Staff Members in Attendance:

Andres Andujar
Melissa Chamrad
Gary Boyd
Geoff Baldwin
Meredith Balzen
Jane Linde
Traci Lewand
Carl Rink
Hilda Valdez

Board Members Not Present:

Ben Gorzell
Corina Castillo-Johnson
Steve Yndo

Other Guests & Visitors:

Melanie Goebel, Golden Steves
Marlene Richardson, Conservation Society
Kay Ness, Alteza
Anne Krause, Hemisfair Conservancy

A. Call to Order

Ms. DeAnda called the meeting to order at 8:39am.

B. Citizens to be Heard.

There were none.

C. Approval of July 28th, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

Mr. Landa moved to approve the minutes and Ms. Martinez-Flores seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

D. CEO Report-

Mr. Andujar began the meeting with a summary of the topics that would be discussed. Ms. Krause announced a Donor Appreciation event to take place on the 21st of September in the newly opened Civic Park and invited the board to attend. Andres announced that the opening of Civic Park would coincide with the 40th anniversary of JazzSA'live, taking place in Civic Park for the first time. During the second day of the event, on September 30th, a ribbon cutting will take place to honor the opening of the park. Mr. Andujar noted that the new budget for the next year has increased for staffing. He also mentioned the positive shift in the media that Hemisfair will experience with the opening of Civic Park, with less focus on the delays and more focus on the delivery of an open, beautiful project that was designed with the original Vision and Use plan and public input in mind. The Western portion of Hemisfair is completely contracted out or finished at this point. Hemisfair is starting to move the redevelopment eastward, where the largest concentration of 1968 pavilions and historic homes are. Mr. Andujar emphasized that the continuing project has huge potential and will be designed with public input and delivered with love.



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E. Briefing and Possible Action Regarding FY2024 Operating Budget

Ms. Chamrad presented the FY2024 Operating Budget to the board. Parking revenue has increased in both the surface lots and the public garage. Expense categories remain the same as in previous years. Philanthropic support remains at the same amount. Contractual services have increased due to audit fees. Office expenses have also increased due to more employees and added cyber security. Operational costs increased mainly due to added security in Civic Park. Parking expenses increased due to the contractual lease of the garage. The budget was reviewed by the Finance and Executive committees. Staff recommends the board approve the FY2-24 Operating Budget as presented. Mr. Landa made a motion to approve, and Ms. Pemberton seconded. The motion passed.

F. Briefing Regarding Civic Park Phase 2 Final Design

Mr. Andujar updated the board on the final design of Source Plaza and the Zocalo. The large fountain that was proposed for Source Plaza was largely over budget once bids came in. Instead, the plaza has changed to a design that uses areas of pavement and landscaping to create a beautiful gathering place. Diagrams showed potential positioning of canopies for markets or locations a stage could be set up for events. This plaza is a similar size to Main Plaza, but its busy edges like store fronts and the hotel will set it apart and activate the space. Images of the proposed Zocalo featured long view corridors to the Friendship Torch, down the promenade, and across to the Mural room. The paving will have unique visual patterns. A water feature inspired by the missions and made from local limestone will anchor the center of the plaza and tell the story of water in the region. Moving from the Zocalo and Balcones to the lawn, there is a 6-to-8-foot topographical difference. Construction will start in October and end by the end of 2024.

G. Board Committee Updates

Executive- Mr. Andujar thanked the executive committee for their review of the FY2024 budget. He announced Ms. Krause's recognition as Woman of the Year by San Antonio Business Journal.

External Relations- Ms. Balzen is focusing on the Civic Park opening media strategy. She also has new Hemisfair merchandise for sale including water bottles, towels, shirts, and sunglasses. Ms. Lewand announced upcoming events including Luminaria, Cystic Fibrosis walk, a Donor Recognition event, the ribbon cutting for Civic Park, JazzSA'live, Fit Bash, Muertos Fest, Diwali and Veteran's Day.

Finance- Ms. Chamrad presented an operating and office expense review. Ms. Krause announced that the conservancy has delivered 2.2 million dollars in FY23, and 120 trees have been sponsored.

Planning and Development- Bombay Bicycle Club will open its second location at Hemisfair in October. Tower Park has several pending philanthropic projects. Kusche house's design and construction documents are finalized.

H. Board Member Comments

None.

I. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:55am.

ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

This meeting was conducted in person.