Quality of Life Council Committee
Meeting Record
(DRAFT)

Meeting Date: 2-9-2009  Convened: 12:02 p.m.  Adjourned: 1:32 p.m.

Pauline Medrano, Chair
Vonciet Jones Hill, Vice Chair
Sheffie Kadane
David A. Neumann
Carolyn Davis
Steve Salazar
Angela Hunt

Briefing Presenters:
- Joey Zapata, Code Compliance
- Theresa O’Donnell, Development Services

Staff Present:
Forest Turner, Shanika Brooks, Sarah
Hasib, Rick Galceran, Sally Rodriguez,
Terri Phillips, Phil Erwin, Paul Dyer,
Michael Hellman, Karen Woodard

Special Guests:
Community Stakeholders

AGENDA:

1. Approval of January 26, 2009 minutes
   Presenter(s):
   Information Only: _____
   Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): Motion to approve the
   January 26, 2009 minutes.

   Motion made by: Vonciet Jones Hill
   Item passed unanimously: __X__
   Item failed unanimously: _____
   Motion seconded by: David Neumann
   Item passed on a divided vote: ______
   Item failed on a divided vote: ______

2. Alley Overgrown Vegetation
   Presenter(s): Joey Zapata
   Information Only: __X__
   Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):

   The purpose of the briefing was to review the process used to address alleys with overgrown
   vegetation and propose efforts to expedite abatement. In Chapter 18 of the Dallas City Code an
   owner or occupant in control of any private premise abutting an alley, street or sidewalk within
   the city commits an offense if he allows any vegetation to grow on the premise across the
   property line into the right-of-way of the alley, street or sidewalk.

   Alley overgrowth impedes public safety such as providing cover for illegal activities, is a
   potential hazard from dried overgrowth and limits access. It also impedes efficient sanitation
   collection and diminishes quality of life such as decreases property values and impacts
   neighborhood harmony. Many times property damage will occur when the utility vehicle
   attempts to avoid overgrowth by striking fences and leaving ruts.

   The alley obstruction resolution process is as follows: request received in 311 and routed to
   Code, code officer inspects site and confirms violations, if necessary issues an annual notice of
   violation (NOV) which gives owner seven days to comply. Code officer re-inspects to confirm
   compliance or issues citations and makes referral to the Mow/Clean Unit. Mow/Clean abates
   violation and processes lien for actual costs. Subsequent violations during the annual NOV term
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are abated without additional notice and liens are processed. Code inspectors also conduct
neighborhood assessments to determine alley condition and Neighborhood Code Reps distribute
door hangers to educate citizens and inform of pending notices.

Optional programs for clearing alleys are also being considered. Options such as adding new
work forces to the Mow/Clean Unit for a more expansive use of the sweep concept (projected
annual cost of $1.54M) and forming partnerships with volunteers and members of the
community were a few mentioned.

Motion made by:       Motion seconded by:
Item passed unanimously: ___  Item passed on a divided vote: ___
Item failed unanimously: ___  Item failed on a divided vote: ___

3. Dallas Arts District Strategic Plan
Presenter(s): Theresa O'Donnell
Information Only: X
Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):

The purpose of the briefing was to review the process and draft of the Dallas Arts District
Strategic Plan. The Dallas Arts District Area Plan Stakeholders Group is a large inclusive group
of more than 40 members. The Stakeholders raised private funds to cover half of the study costs.
The consulting team consisted of the Fregonese Calthrope Associates, Mesa Design Group and
Carl Walker Inc. The planning group examined major issues such as urban design, specific
design and planning issues, parking and district governance. Many recommendations were
included to address such concerns.

Motion made by:       Motion seconded by:
Item passed unanimously: ___  Item passed on a divided vote: ___
Item failed unanimously: ___  Item failed on a divided vote: ___

5. A motion was made to approve and move the upcoming agenda items.

Motion made by: Sheffie Kadane       Motion seconded by: Voncie Jones Hill
Item passed unanimously: X  Item passed on a divided vote: ___
Item failed unanimously: ___  Item failed on a divided vote: ___

Pauline Medrano
Chair