



**CITIZEN'S OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (PUBLIC SAFETY)
SANGER COUNCIL CHAMBER
MINUTES
December 6, 2016
Regular Meeting – 6:00 P.M.**

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at [6:01:14 PM](#)

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Secretary Gonzales led the flag salute.

C. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Gonzales, Simpson, Adams, Miser

Members Absent: Mares

D. CEREMONIAL ITEMS

None

E. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

(This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons desiring to address the Committee on any matter not on the agenda and within the area of responsibility of the Committee. It is the policy of the Committee not to answer any questions impromptu and complaints should be referred to the City Clerk's Office. Speakers should limit their comments to five minutes.)

[6:02:23 PM](#)

Dr. Jerry Valadez shared positive outcome of Measure S funding for SAM Academy.

F. AGENDA APPROVAL, ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS

[6:05:27 PM](#)

Committee Member Miser moved to approve the agenda, Vice Chair Simpson seconded. The motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Gonzales, Simpson, Adams, Miser
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Mares

G. CONSENT CALENDAR

(Matters listed under consent calendar are considered routine and will be approved by one motion and one vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless requested by a member of the audience or a Committee Member in which case the item will be removed from the consent Calendar and considered separately.)

1. SUBJECT: Minutes for November 1, 2016 meeting
RECOMMENDATION: Approve minutes.

[6:06:32 PM](#)

Vice Chair Simpson wanted to take some time to congratulate SAM Academy. Sanger's SAM Academy and Wilson Elementary received national Ed Source and Huffington Post publicity and recognition for Wilson's "Makerspace" approach to increasing learning and achievement. English learners, underserved, and at-risk students solve problems, develop skills, communicate and journal while making hands-on science projects.

Secretary Gonzales motioned to approve the minutes, Committee Member Miser seconded; the motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Gonzales, Simpson, Adams, Miser
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Mares

H. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. SUBJECT: Measure S Budget, Revenue and Expenditure Reports
RECOMMENDATION: This is not an action item. It is for informational and review purposes only.

[6:08:24 PM](#)

Administrative Services Director Rudy Hernandez presented the financial report for period ending on October 31st 2016

Vice Chair Simpson stated that she agreed with Committee Member Miser's previous suggestion of pay out grant funding in incremental installments and having the organizations show expenditure for accountability.

Committee Member Miser expressed concern over the Fire Department's overtime and benefit amounts for this time of year.

Mr. Hernandez responded that he is working on a midyear budget review to look at expenditures, what has been budgeted and where they currently stand.

Chief Tarascou added that the amounts are high due to the fire season. They're expected to get reimbursed from the State and the balances will even out.

Committee Member Miser asked why the State would be reimbursing the Fire Department. Miser also had a concern about the increase in benefits and social security being paid.

Mr. Hernandez explained that when you have overtime, you also have an increase of FICA, Medicare, Workers' Comp and benefits.

Chairperson Adams stated it would be best for Committee Member Miser to set an appointment with Mr. Hernandez and City Manager, Tim Chapa, to discuss his concerns.

City Manager, Tim Chapa thanked Committee Member Miser for pointing out the trends and clarified there will be a midyear budget presentation given to the City Council where it will be reviewed and discussed. If the COC would like a presentation as well, they can do the same for them.

Secretary Gonzales asked where miscellaneous income would come from in the budget.

Mr. Hernandez replied that it is money that is not anticipated, usually a onetime thing such as donations.

No Public Comment.

2. SUBJECT: Measure S Grants

RECOMMENDATION: That the Citizens Oversight Committee recommend to City Council amending the Gang/Drug Prevention & Intervention Grant Program provided through Measure S to better clarify and define applicant and program eligibility and reporting requirements.

City Manager Tim Chapa informed the committee that his staff had gone through and provided feedback on the suggestions given by the COC committee regarding the Measure S guidelines. He talked about three new Council Members starting soon and needed to bring them up to speed. Mr. Chapa also explained that the timeframe for awarding the grant could be delayed. During the presentation he provided staff responses to the suggestions included not hiring a Grant Administrator, but instead his assistant would be responsible for those duties.

Chairperson Adams stated it was never her intention to hire a completely new person. The committee has questions and needs to see more follow through with grants, there's a current lack of accountability for the organizations. She's just requesting that someone be responsible for this. She also asked if this job description revision would need to go through the City Council for approval.

Mr. Chapa replied that it is an administrative call.

Chairperson Adams added she would like to have this person in place before they accept any grant proposals.

Mr. Chapa stated he wasn't looking to recruit for positions during the holidays. If it becomes urgent, he'll look into pushing the application process.

Committee Member Miser asked Mr. Chapa to think about having an administrator, rather than his assistant do the work. Mr. Miser feels that someone with experience in reading budget is better suited for the job.

Mr. Chapa continued with this presentation stating finances are not usually heavily weighed in grant applications.

Committee Member Miser stated that a concern he has is not knowing if the money is being spent well. We're giving the organizations money up front with no credit analysis. He is looking for transparency.

Mr. Chapa responded that he and staff do support the idea that not all funds be given up front. He continued with the presentation adding that the authentication of support letters can also be done by his assistant. He also discussed the allocation amount. There is nothing that indicates what the amount must be, 125k makes sense. It is about 6% of the budget and he recommended we maintain that amount per year. Regardless of the cap, guidelines also state that we are not to fund 100% of an organization, only assist. Guidelines also state that the allocation of funds to an organization are not to be ongoing, but the guidelines do not state at what year we stop funding them.

Committee Member Miser stated that he didn't feel as if the purpose of Measure S funds were for start up or to start programs. It's supposed to be an addition to help support what the Police and Fire Departments are already doing. He said grants are capped at \$125,000 but all the monies received every year from sales tax is not being spent. He feels it would be better to increase the safety of poor people; there are some cities that have police in schools, but we're not doing that.

Mr. Chapa replied that staff can work with the City Council to put together a 10 year plan that will make sure there is an appropriate amount in reserves. He continued with his presentation stated that he and staff are not opposed to having pass through agencies apply. Some organizations do not meet the standards and need to piggyback other organizations for funding.

Committee Member Miser opposed to this stating that we will not be giving money to nonprofits.

Chairperson Adams added that smaller groups need status to qualify, such as Project Purple. A lot of community groups haven't gone through the process to be considered nonprofits.

Vice Chair Simpson added that it costs a lot of money. She provided an example of the Women's Club needed to change their status and the amount it costs.

Mr. Chapa continued with his presentation stating that he and staff support the money going to the organization and not overhead cost, for this reason they're in support of reducing the overhead amount from 15% to 10%. This reduction will also help ensure that all costs are specific to Sanger. The next bullet was in regards to the number of youth being served. To help, they suggested requiring grant agencies to identify, by sign-in sheets, first time attendees from those that are repeat attendees. Before addressing the last bullet in number four, he asked Police Chief Rodriguez to define the three important steps to addressing the gang problem.

Police Chief Rodriguez stated he has studied gangs for a few years as well as attended gang submits. To be effective, there is a three prong approach: suppression, intervention and prevention. Suppression is something the Sanger PD does well, taking those to jail that need to be in jail. Intervention is something the PD does very little of because of limited resources. Intervention is intervening in lives of kids who are at risk; they can come from broken homes, single parents or poor neighborhoods. If someone doesn't intervene, those kids can go down a path of gangs and/or drugs. Lastly, prevention, this is targeted for kids from 2nd grade through 6th grade. It's about letting them know about the consequences and dangers of being in gangs. If you're successful with all three you'll be able to better combat the issue.

Mr. Chapa stated that with respect to the designated number of youth being served, he questions how the applicants are identifying at risk youth and how the organizations are intervening. Money is being allocated to good organizations who keep kids off the streets, but it doesn't fit into suppression, intervention or prevention.

Chairperson Adams stated that we need a definition of what at risk youth is to make sure we're all on the same page.

Mr. Chapa replied that the definition is in the guidelines.

Vice Chair Simpson asked for clarification in deterring gang membership and if it's middle school and high school or just elementary.

Chief Rodriguez replied that kids are most lured in middle and high school; intervention is usually from grades 5-10.

Mr. Chapa stated that prevention is focused towards the younger children and intervention is specific to those kids whose behavior meets the criteria of "at risk." He then asked the council to think of the programs we've given money to and ask if any of them focus on those things. In moving forward, that's the better criteria to use. He continues with the next bullet, program reporting modifications. He doesn't feel as if including pictures is a direct criterion that will ensure that strategies are being addressed. He rather move to a more specific criteria that will move to intervention and prevention, but in doing so we need to define what those

criteria will be. Receipts will generally support this and it is consistent with the recommendation of not providing funds up front but rather on a reimbursement, quarterly, or incremental payments. He added that creating report guidelines has been a weakness because they haven't provided a model of what we want the organizations to provide. He will be working with the Chief's to create a boiler plate. In regards advertisement, he asked for more feedback. He stated they have done well to hit the standard by publishing it in newspaper, websites and Inside Sanger.

Committee Member Miser stated the advertisement was due to the same organizations applying. He's surprised other organizations such as the Tom Flores Youth Foundation and Soccer Group haven't applied.

Mr. Chapa stated they will comply, if the committee wished that they reach further, they will. In regards to new ideas, he has spoken to the Chiefs and will encourage them in the next cycle to apply for the same funds if they wish to develop programs that meet the same criteria. He will not force them, but will open the door for them to be a part of that process. In regards to recreation, respectfully he asks that they committee no consider this. From a different perspective, Measure S funds are for safety, the responsibility of recreations should come from the general fund. Lastly, regarding forming a gang intervention and prevention committee, he doesn't feel another committee is necessary. Instead, Police and Fire can assist based on their experience.

Chairperson Adams stated that with the Chief's you only have two perspectives, but if you have a community outreach, you'll bring in people that work in different aspects with kids and multiple perspectives. She's hoping to have some kind of community network that can bring back feedback from many portions of the community and what they're seeing. This approach will be broader in determining what Sanger can do with limited funds to assist children.

Vice Chair Simpson stated that school counselors are someone that interact with children in different manner and therefore are a key component. She then asked where our juvenile probation officer is.

Chief Rodriguez responded that they have one school resource officer who spends most of his day in the high school and middle school.

Committee Member Miser supports Chairperson Adams comment. He expressed the need to incorporate different skills and strengths to solve things.

Mr. Chapa stated that the purpose of the presentation was to get the staff's response on what will work and not work. He suggested that at the next meeting, the Committee should go through the points and come to a final recommendation on what to present to the council. The presentation should take place during a February meeting which is typically when the application process starts for the grant. He acknowledges having to push the ability to award grants, however it's still achievable if we further define the rules and regulations, give that to the organizations and use the criteria that's been adopted. If they're not going to be eligible

until September, than we need to let them know by June. Perhaps the next cycle is a 9 month program.

Vice Chair Simpson stated she would encourage everyone to leave in the idea that afterschool programs are critical; gang intervention and prevention can be accomplished in a variety of programs. The youth need alternative things to replace the need to get involved with gangs. It's critical to think not only about gangs and prevention, but to find goals so that they pull themselves out.

Secretary Gonzales stated that based on what he's heard, there are still different opinions on what to provide. He recommended a special closed session where everyone can sit down and share their opinions and provide a list of what we want to present.

Mr. Chapa stated that in order to be in accordance with Roberts Rules, it would need to be an open meeting. He also suggested to Secretary Gonzales an open meeting workshop.

Chairperson Adams asked if Mr. Chapa was able to bring back recommendations that fit within the resolution so that it a decision can be made in January.

Mr. Chapa stated there wouldn't be time to set another meeting due to the holidays. What they can do is put it on the agenda for next meeting with comprehensive comments so that the committee is prepared to discuss it further or take action. The action will determine the timeline. When the committee feels comfortable with a set of recommendations they can move forwards.

Chairperson Adams stated she's looking to simplify the recommendations for the grant cycle. She feels the Committee should pick three items to move forward that would take them in the right direction to further the program and during the year move forward with having Chief Rodriguez set up a gang workshop that will extend to the community. She hopes to invite the community in the discussion to see what their opinions are.

Vice Chair Simpson stated that Mr. Chapa knows the documents well, what will work and not work. She'd be happy to give him permission to place the list of recommendations on a "diet" to cut out the things that will not apply.

Chairperson Adams asked that they leave in the grant administrator responsibility.

[7:53:52 PM](#) Public Comment:

Member of the Public, Jerry Valdez, spoke about his concern about the programs needing to meet the gang intervention and/or prevention definition. He also spoke about his concern in having the programs pay for cost upfront and be reimburse for costs at a later time; this will discourage small organizations that cannot afford to run their programs in that way. He feels gang awareness goes beyond the three scopes Chief Rodriguez spoke about and asked the Committee to please consider bringing in other voices, specifically that of key stakeholders such as awardees and program related people, and get the community involved in discussion.

Chairperson Adams expressed her preference in having a diet approach to the list so that the cycle can pick up in February. In the meantime, they can work on a long approach to be more effective over the next year.

Committee Member Miser stated he felt it was the responsibility of the Committee to decide which points are most relevant, not Mr. Chapa's.

Chairperson Adams responded that Mr. Chapa has been informed by the Committee on what they feel to be feasible.

There was consensus from all Committee Members to allow Mr. Chapa and staff to discuss and provide a slim down approach to key things that are achievable.

3. SUBJECT: Police Department Update
RECOMMENDATION: Information item.

[8:10:33 PM](#) Chief Rodriguez provided a Police update that included their role in the Toy Land Parade and the hiring of a new officer. They have two more positions to fill and have received a good number of applicants.

4. SUBJECT: Fire Department Update
RECOMMENDATION: Information item.

[8:12:04 PM](#) Chief Tarascou provided a Fire update that included placing Santa in different areas around the City. They are looking candidates as well for an open position.

Secretary Gonzalez asked about the new fire truck and how the radios are working out.

Chief Tarascou replied that they should receive the fire truck towards the end of the timeframe that was given and that the radios are working out well. They received training on the new system and put them in service.

I. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

None.

J. MATTERS INITIATED BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

[8:14:34 PM](#) Vice Chair Simpson acknowledged all the people who were on the streets promoting the passage of Measure S and thanked them for their hard work. She also congratulated SAM Academy for their program recognition.

K. NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

1. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at 6 p.m.

2. City Council meetings are held on the first and third Thursday of each month. The next regularly scheduled City Council meetings will be December 15, 2016 and January 5, 2017.

L. ADJOURNMENT

Committee member Miser motioned to adjourn the meeting, Vice Chair Simpson seconded; all were in favor, the meeting adjourned at [8:18:42 PM](#).