



# EMPOWERMENT ZONE ADVISORY BOARD

City of El Paso – Community and Human Development Department – Empowerment Zone Grant (EZ)

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

GREATER EL PASO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, 10 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA  
EL PASO, TEXAS  
JUNE 10, 2010  
5:30 p.m.

The Empowerment Zone Advisory Board met in regular session at the above place and date. Meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. Edith Zuvanich was present and presiding.

The following Advisory Board members answered roll call:

Sally J. Andrade,  
Gilbert Guillen,  
Daniel Ortiz (Vice-Chair),  
Norma Tena,  
Edith Zuvanich (Chair)

Absent:

Trinidad Acevedo,  
Leticia Paez,  
Carlos Veloz

Early departure:

Norma Tena at approximately 6:39 p.m.

Staff present:

William Lilly (Community & Human Development Director),  
Isela Robison (Empowerment Zone Program Coordinator),  
Carolyn Yanez (Empowerment Zone Project Compliance Specialist),  
Priscilla Arellano (Recording Secretary)

### 1. Advisory Board Members' Introductions

Each Board member introduced themselves.

### 2. Call for General Public Comments

None

### 3. Approval of May 27, 2010 Minutes

Motion made by Gilbert Guillen, seconded by Sally Andrade, and unanimously carried to **APPROVE** minutes with amendments.

AYES: Sally J. Andrade, Gilbert Guillen, Daniel Ortiz, Norma Tena, Edith Zuvanich  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Trinidad Acevedo, Leticia Paez, Carlos Veloz

Edith Zuvanich, Chair, recommended Agenda Item #8 (Discussion and Action on Recommendations for New Projects and Budget Reallocations) precede Agenda tem #5 (Approval of May 27, 2010 Minutes).

4. Discussion and Action on Recommendations for New Projects and Budget Reallocations  
City staff addressed concerns from the Advisory Board and discussed budget reallocation options.

Motion made by Daniel Ortiz, seconded by Gilbert Guillen, to unanimously support efforts of City staff to continue discussions with HUD and seek all possible alternatives and exhaust every alternative possible in order to draw down funds. The Advisory Board continues to be deeply concerned that all Empowerment Zone funds be expended.

AYES: Sally J. Andrade, Gilbert Guillen, Daniel Ortiz, Norma Tena, Edith Zuvanich  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Trinidad Acevedo, Leticia Paez, Carlos Veloz

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5. Presentation: El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Micro Loan Program  
Terri Reed, from the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, requested to defer presentation until HUD approves possibility of the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce to administer this fund.
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6. Quarterly Presentations:

- a. Greater El Paso Chamber of Commerce-Small Business Technical Assistance (G3.C2.P13 (C))  
Presenter: Melodya Salaices
- b. City of El Paso Economic Development
  - (1) Commercial Façade Improvement Program (G3. C3. P13 (A))
  - (2) Small Business Loans (G3. C3. P10 (A))
  - (3) Micro Business Loans (G3. C3. P12 (A))Presenter: Ernesto Gamboa and Diana Diaz

The Greater El Paso Chamber of Commerce and the City of El Paso Economic Development Department presented their quarterly report and answered questions from the Advisory Board.

City staff answered questions from the Advisory Board.

[Handouts are available through the Community and Human Development Department - Empowerment Zone Division office.]

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7. Call for Public Comments on Agenda Items

Alvaro Galdos  
Emma Garcia  
Lisa Velez  
Maria Villaba

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8. Scheduling next meeting

Advisory Board requested to meet in two weeks. Date, time, and location to be determined.

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9. Adjournment

Motion made by Daniel Ortiz, seconded by Norma Tena, and unanimously carried to adjourn meeting at 6:40 p.m.