

Kelly Air Force Base
Environmental Restoration Advisory Board (RAB)
January 15, 2002 Meeting Minutes
Kennedy High School

Members/Alternates Present

Name	Member Type	Title/Organization
Dr. Gene Lené	Community Member	Community Co-Chair
Mr. Robert Silvas	Community Member	
Mr. Armando Quintanilla	Community Member	
Ms. Tanya Huerta	Community Member	
Mr. Rodrigo Garcia Jr.	Community Member	
Ms. Dominga Adames	Community Member	
Mr. Sam Murrah	Community Member	
Mr. Phillip Farrell	Government Alternate	GKDA
Ms. Laura Stankosky	Government	USEPA
Mr. Sam Sanchez	Government	SAMHD
Mr. Adam Antwine	Government	AFBCA
Mr. Mark Weegar	Government	TNRCC
Ms. Abbi Power	Government	TNRCC
Dr. David Smith	Facilitator	

Meeting Goal

To elect new members to the RAB in order to create a group that reflects the diversified interests of the community.

I. Meeting Convened

The RAB meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. Dr. David Smith introduced himself and explained the purpose of the meeting was to elect nine RAB members. He then reviewed the agenda.

II. Presentation on KellyUSA's Redevelopment Status

Mr. Bob Rasmussen, Deputy Director, Greater Kelly Development Authority (GKDA), presented information on the KellyUSA's Redevelopment Status. The briefing included the following talking points: the KellyUSA vision, accomplishments and initiatives, established partners and organizations, tough issues, and budget priorities. Overall the vision is to have an inland port that is a gateway to Central and South American businesses, to include an aviation overhaul and repair center and a manufacturing center for San Antonio. KellyUSA has created over 12,000 jobs, retained 7,000 government employees, and developed \$70 million of new construction and upgrades on facilities. Currently there are three major initiatives in progress: Air Cargo, Work Force Training, and Intermodal Rail and Highway. KellyUSA has created over 19 partnerships with various private industries and local, state and federal governments. The tough issues ahead are groundwater and health concerns, creating competitive and attractive work places, compliance with code regulations, the leaseback arrangement with the Air Force, and financing. The established budget for FY02 depicts revenues of \$20,234,362 and expenditures of \$17,699,097, leaving an excess of \$2,535,265.

Discussion

Numerous questions and concerns were addressed regarding the work force and employment at KellyUSA. Mr. Rasmussen explained that over 1,000 new jobs were created last year, and it is anticipated that as many or more jobs will be created in 2002. In addition, when GKDA started the transition it was agreed that tenants on Kelly would first hire former Kelly workers.

The issue of Kelly Parkway was discussed. Mr. Rasmussen explained that the long-term development of the (Kelly) distribution center would be slowed if the parkway does not occur. It would also allow heavy traffic to be diverted off the main thoroughfares and help capitalize on free trade with Mexico. A series of public meetings to pin down the routing of the parkway has occurred, and there will be another meeting this spring. To date the project is not in the Texas Department of Transportation, 10-year funding streamline, which is essential to accomplish this project. Mr. Robert Silvas (RAB member) mentioned that the GKDA was not being community friendly by having these meetings during the day.

A Southwest Workers Union representative explained that GKDA is not looking at the community input during the development of KellyUSA. The representative mentioned that GKDA is not dealing with health issues surrounding former Kelly AFB and the community does not approve of the corporate tax exemption or other issues. Mr. Rasmussen addressed these concerns by explaining that he has visited other closed bases and KellyUSA has far exceeded these bases in closure transition and redevelopment. Concerning the health issues, he stated that the current large corporations at KellyUSA have implemented strong health and safety programs that protect both the worker and the environment.

Ms. Tanya Huerta requested clarification on two acronyms, "EDF" and "EDA". Respectively, the acronyms stand for Economic Development Foundation, a local private firm that markets San Antonio, and Economic Development Administration, part of the Department of Commerce. GKDA has received approximately \$6 million in grant funds from EDA.

III. Presentation on Kelly Restoration Advisory Board

Dr. David Smith, RAB facilitator, presented information on the RAB explaining who participates, why the board exists, and what the board can and cannot do. Along with an overall review of RABs, Dr. Smith detailed the Kelly RAB. The briefing described the purpose of a RAB, which is to review the environmental activities of the environmental program at military installations. The board ideally would have a diverse and balanced group of individuals that reflect a wide variety of interests and concerns, to include community members and government representatives. RABs promote community awareness, serve as conduits between the community and the installation, and obtain constructive community reviews. The RAB does not vote on issues or make decisions on environmental restoration activities. Great RABs were depicted as having people that participate, agree, and understand the mission, and that follow the rules and agendas of orderly meeting formats.

IV. Certificates of Appreciation

Mr. Adam Antwine and Dr. Gene Lené presented Certificates of Appreciation to RAB members that completed their two-year terms. Mr. Mark Puffer and Mr. Roy Botello were present to accept the certificates. The seven remaining RAB members, whose terms ended, were not present.

V. Elections

Dr. Lené initiated the election process. Mr. Armando Quintanilla interpreted the RAB Charter as stating that when members' terms end, the members can be nominated for reelection by a current board member and then the board would vote on the nomination. Mr. Quintanilla stated that when his term ended last year, this process was followed and he believed that the board needs to be consistent. The board recessed at 6:40 p.m. to discuss this issue.

At 6:52 p.m. the board reconvened. The issue was discussed and the board agreed that the six (6) members up for reelection do not have to reapply, and can be nominated by a board member. Following this declaration, six members (see below) up for reelection were nominated and voted onto the board. This left three positions open for election.

1. Ms. Nazarite Perez
2. Ms. Peggy Grybos
3. Mr. George Rice
4. Mr. Paul Person
5. Mr. Roy Botello
6. Mr. Mark Puffer

A roll call of the candidates was announced. The following were present.

Mr. Larry Bowman
Mr. Carmelo Casillas
Ms. Mary Cruz
Mr. Mike DeNuccio
Ms. Esmeralda Galvan

Mr. Ross Omar Garcia
Mr. Eloy La Que II
Mr. Manning (Buddy) Pletz
Ms. Sylvia Reyna

Two candidates, Mr. Casillas and Ms. Reyna, withdrew their applications. Ms. Huerta selected Ms. Reyna to be her alternate.

A two-minute break was taken and the board reconvened to have each applicant give a short speech to the board. Each applicant's name was randomly drawn to determine the order in which they would speak. The following lists the order drawn:

1. Mr. Larry Bowman
2. Mr. Manning (Buddy) Pletz
3. Mr. Mike DeNuccio
4. Ms. Esmeralda Galvan
5. Ms. Mary Cruz
6. Mr. Ross Omar Garcia
7. Mr. Eloy LaQue II

Elections Commenced

First round of elections: Mr. Bowman and Ms. Galvan were elected.

Rounds two through five: No applicant received a majority of the votes; four votes were required for a majority.

The board then decided to take the top two applicants from round five and vote on these two candidates.

Round six: Mr. DeNuccio was elected.

Note: For detailed results, see Attachment A.

VI. Announcements

Dr. Lené called the meeting to order, and the board resumed the agenda. Mr. Antwine welcomed the new RAB members and proceeded to announce several updates and projects.

City Council involvement: The council made recommendations on the six (6) remedies designated for Zone 4. AFBCA will continue to work with the City of San Antonio (COSA). The COSA has retained Zephyr Environmental to continue the quality assurance process.

Fruit and Nut Sampling Project: The sampling is complete. Validation of the data is anticipated to be complete in April 2002.

Shallow Well Abandonment Project: The project has started. Contacting well owners is the initial step, which is currently taking place.

Public Center for Environmental Health (PCEH): The Environmental Health and Wellness Center is being established at the prior Las Palmas Clinic. PCEH has started to hire personnel, and furniture and equipment are being provided for the office space.

Discussion

Mr. Quintanilla expressed concern as to when the Air Force will approve the options for Zone 4 and forward them to the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC). In addition, he asked when the City's recommendations would be reviewed and addressed by the Air Force. Mr. Antwine and Mr. William Ryan responded that they would be forwarded to the TNRCC this summer and that the City's recommendations would be addressed in the Corrective Measure Study (CMS) and then forwarded to the TNRCC.

Mr. Quintanilla proceeded to question the schedule for the CMS on Zone 5. The CMS will be ready in January and it will be provided to the Technical Review Subcommittee (TRS) in February. There was concern that this was after the fact and a question on whether a public comment period would be available. Mr. Weegar explained that there is a review process of the options, and once approved the Air Force has 180 days to submit the Corrective Measures Work Plan to the TNRCC. In addition, the TNRCC sends all correspondence to the RAB. Mr. Rodrigo Garcia wanted to have all documents sent to RAB members with a timeline and the administrative procedures attached so that they can provide comments. Mr. Quintanilla wanted to know if the cleanup options for Zone 5 would go through the same process, involving the City Council. Mr. Ryan stated that the City Council has not requested a review of the options.

Ms. Galvan was concerned with the completion of the fruit and nut project. She wanted to know if the project would continue since tomatoes have not been sampled. Mr. Antwine responded that the sampling is complete and once the data is interpreted, there will be a discussion on a second phase.

VII. Final Community Comment

Mr. Silvas requested a report from the USEPA on the field spill on the West Side. Ms. Laura Stankosky replied that she would have to get with the personnel that ran the meeting at which the spill was discussed.

Mrs. Yolanda Johnson heard on KTSA radio that the Air Force received grant money for development of land on Fredricksburg Road in the Monitcello area for people that want to move out of the contaminated area. No one had heard of such news and AFBCA offered to investigate the information and get back with her.

There were no additional public comments.

VIII. Meeting Wrap-Up Section

Mr. Doug Karas explained that the RAB charter is in need of updating and asked for RAB volunteers to accomplish this task. Mr. Quintanilla volunteered. Mr. Karas stated that he would contact all RAB members and ask them if they would like to participate.

A request to have the charter mailed to each RAB member was made. Members have received a copy of the charter. Mr. Puffer requested that Ms. Cruz be his alternate. It was noted and explained that the board did not need to approve alternates.

Dr. Lené requested a complete list of addresses, names, and pertinent information on all RAB members to include alternates.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.