



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: {{item.number}}

Agenda Date: January 27, 2022

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Department of Human Services

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Melody Woosley

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Ordinance approving changes to boards and commissions overseen by the Department of Human Services.

SUMMARY:

This item approves a name change to the SA2020 Commissions on Education and Strengthening Family Well-Being; approves modifications to increase efficiencies and establish consistency with the City's Boards and Commissions rules for the two SA2020 Boards, and the City of San Antonio Higher Education Student Advisory Board and the San Antonio Youth Commission; and approves updated Bylaws for each.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In 2013, the SA2020 Commission on Education and the SA2020 Commission on Strengthening Family Well-Being were created to support the work of the nonprofit organization SA2020. The SA2020 Commission on Education serves in an advisory capacity to the Mayor and City Council on matters affecting the education of San Antonio residents. The SA2020 Commission on Family Well-Being serves in an advisory capacity to the Mayor and City Council on matters affecting the financial stability and well-being of San Antonio residents and families, with a focus on matters such as reducing poverty and homelessness.

Over the years, the two commissions have undertaken expanded policy areas and were not officially associated with SA2020. However, due to the names of the commissions, it unintentionally caused confusion in the community on the purpose of the two City of San Antonio commissions.

In 2019, the Commission on Education began discussing the possibility of removing SA2020 from its name and officially made the recommendation to remove “SA2020” from its name. In February 2021, staff from the nonprofit SA2020 officially requested “SA2020” be removed from the name of both city commissions.

Staff recommends approval of the name change for both commissions and modifications within the Bylaws to reflect the change, to remove term limits and to modify the attendance provisions, which would make these consistent with the current Boards and Commission Rules in the City Code. Specifically, the Bylaws when approved in 2013 included term limits; currently there is no term limit in the City Code. Also, the current Bylaws include language that 3 or more absences result in a recommendation to remove an appointee; however, the Code does not include a recommendation to remove, but rather states that the Office of the City Clerk shall coordinate the attendance issue with the appointing Councilmember or Mayor, allowing for the Councilmember or Mayor to make the decision as to whether to remove by replacement. Staff recommends approval of modified Bylaws to comport with the City Code.

San Antonio Youth Commission- The San Antonio Youth Commission (SAYC) was created in 1991 and is comprised of twenty-two members appointed by the Mayor and each City Council District. The SAYC serves in an advisory capacity to the Mayor and City Council on matters affecting the youth of San Antonio residents. Staff recommends the approval of bylaws for this Commission, which would not only establish a governance process, but also, if approved, allow for a modified quorum requirement for this student board. Staff recommends quorum be a majority of appointed members instead of a majority of seats on the Board. This would be helpful in setting a lower threshold for achieving a quorum for a student board.

City of San Antonio Higher Education Student Advisory Board- The Higher Education Student Advisory Board was created in 2018 and is comprised of eleven members appointed by the Mayor and each City Council District. The Higher Education Student Advisory Board serves in an advisory capacity to the Mayor and City Council on matters affecting the college students of San Antonio. Staff recommends the approval of bylaws for this Board, which would not only establish a governance process, but also, if approved, remove the extra step of seeking a University nomination for a proposed applicant, which often creates an unnecessary delay in the appointment process.

ISSUE:

The approval of the name changes for the two SA2020 Commissions and approval of original or updated Bylaws will allow for more efficient operation of the boards and commissions and minimize confusion with the SA2020 nonprofit.

ALTERNATIVES:

If the proposed name changes are not approved, the SA2020 commission names may continue to cause confusion in the community regarding the purpose of the two City of San Antonio commissions. Additionally, if removal of term limits, attendance, quorum and appointment modifications are not approved to comport with the City Code provisions, the specific boards will continue to have the current structure which will differ from the Code and other boards and commissions.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no anticipated impact to the general fund as a result of these actions.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends review and consideration of the items included in this memorandum as well the bylaws changes listed in the attached modifications table:

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A: Department of Human Services Boards and Commissions Table of Proposed Modifications

Attachment B: SA2020 Commission on Education Bylaws (comparison showing proposed modifications)

Attachment C: Commission on Education Bylaws (as updated)

Attachment D: SA2020 Commission on Strengthening Family Well-Being Bylaws (comparison showing proposed modifications)

Attachment E: Commission on Strengthening Family Well-Being Bylaws (as updated)

Attachment F: San Antonio Youth Commission Bylaws

Attachment G: City of San Antonio Higher Education Student Advisory Board Bylaws