

**MINUTES**  
**SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Friday, September 18, 2009 at 1:30 p.m.**  
**111 NW 1<sup>st</sup> Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Miami, FL 33128**

**Members Present**

Dr. Antonio Jorge; Dr. Leonardo Rodriguez; Dr. Raul Moncarz; Dr. Elisa Moncarz; Dr. Bernadette West; Jesus Permuy; Dr. Maria Espino; Reinaldo Azan; Dr. Ken Lipner; Dr. Larry Capp; Rosendo Castillo; Dr. German Munoz.

**Members with Excused Absence**

Dr. Brian Peterson; Pedro Diaz-Mendez; Dr. Pedro Pellet; Dr. Jorge Salazar-Carrillo; Dr. Willie Williams.

**Members Absent**

Gustavo Roig.

**Miami-Dade County Staff and Others**

Dr. Robert Cruz, Robert Hesler and Hardai “Dai” Junor (OEDC); Bob Schwarzreich (DP&Z); Mia Marin (Commission Auditor); Reinaldo Valdes.

**Call to Order – Welcome and Introductions**

Dr. Jorge, Chairperson called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and a quorum was met.

Members of the Council, county staff and others introduced themselves.

**Approval of Minutes**

Dr. Capp moved a motion to approve the minutes of the August 21st, 2009 meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Espino. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**Chairperson’s Update**

Dr. Jorge reported that Mr. Marc LaFerrier, Director of Planning and Zoning could not be present due to the budget hearing, and has deferred his presentation to the next meeting or a later date.

The chairperson introduced Mr. Reinaldo Valdes and stated that he has expressed his interest in becoming a member of the Social and Economic Development Council. His resume was submitted to the Council for consideration, and after review of his application, Dr. Rodriguez motioned for the Council to accept the nomination of Mr. Reinaldo Valdes as a regular member of the SEDC. The motion was seconded by Dr. Moncarz. All were in favor and the nomination was unanimously accepted and the motion so passed.

Dr. Capp spoke of the budget process as related to his department and reported that Community Advocacy has been proposed to move to the BCC where the office will be working directly with the Office of the Commission Chair. The restructuring would Community Advocacy to get access not only to the Chair but to all the county commissioners.

Dr. Capp referred back to the discussion at the last meeting on government funding, and as a follow-up he has submitted a preliminary draft of on an agenda for a Proposed Workshop on “Strategies for Revenue Generation to Finance Social and Economic Development” – How to structure funding of government and to hear from elected and public officials. He said the meeting would be taped and broadcasted live from the County Commission chambers. The date and time is Monday, October 19th, 2009 from 1:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m. He mentioned the speakers he had in mind are Merrett Stierheim, a former County Manager and Maurice Ferre, an elected official. He stated that the cost for the event should be minimal as he would be soliciting co-sponsors.

Dr. Rodriguez said when looking at budgetary issues, you should look at procedures and decisions taken in the past and how to use revenues in the future. He suggested that the Council have a historical introduction at the workshop.

Dr. Jorge stated that generating revenues impacts has consequences on economic development and there are feedback loops from the economy to revenues which cannot be ignored. He stated that the first step is to have an overview of the economy of Dade County including the current situation and future goals including the role that taxation should play in this future.

Dr. Moncarz emphasized a concern that speakers should be independent of governments so as to guard against a positive “spin.” Dr Munoz suggested not having current politicians as speakers.

Reinaldo Azan talked of “forensic statesmanship” and why we did not have sufficient financial reserves to deal with the current fiscal problems or have the vision to see the ‘bubble’. He suggested looking at the budget and specifically its expenditures.

Dr. Jorge questioned to what extent the second economic development strategy to the economic component of the master plan has been implemented; and if it is binding after it was adopted by the BCC.

Dr. Lipner said that they had asked the County Attorney if she would provide an opinion as to the binding nature of the Strategic Plan. Dr. Cruz said the Planning and Zoning Director could answer that question; however, if the Council would like to have the Attorney’s opinion, he will ask her to attend the next meeting.

Dr. Rodriguez stated that sometime in the future there should be a recommendation from this Council to the County that there should be a baseline for revenue and that for every dollar above a certain baseline that a set percentage should be put into a reserve for the future.

After much discussion on the Workshop, the following were agreed upon –

- Date of Workshop: October 19, 2009 from 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
- Title: Strategies for Revenue Generation to Finance Social and Economic Development.
- Dr. Capp, with the aid of an adhoc committee of SEDC members, would put the program together and arrange for the speakers.
- The introduction and concluding remarks will be made by Dr. Jorge
- Dr. Capp will play the role of MC the Workshop.
- The SEDC role is an educational one and to bring important socioeconomic issues to the forefront.

An SEDC sub-committee was then formed to formulate and plan for the workshop. The members are Dr. Capp, Dr. Peterson, Dr. Espino, Dr. West, Dr. Moncarz, Dr. Lipner, and Mr. Castillo.

Dr. Cruz distributed a PowerPoint presentation summarizing the results of the economic impact analysis of the proposed budget which was discussed at the last meeting. He also distributed copies of the monthly economic indicators.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further discussion Dr. Lipner motioned for the meeting to be adjourned. The motion seconded by Dr. Rodriguez. Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m

*These minutes were approved by the SEDC on October 16, 2009.*