

Pima County Small Business Commission
County Administration Building
130 W. Congress, 1st Floor
Thursday, January 17, 2013
3:00 P.M.

Members Present

Ken Goodman
Tom Ward
Lyra Done
Edie Lake
Pat Brown
Dabney Philabaum
Joy Soler
Jerry Long
Gabrielle David

Others Present

Tom Moulton
Johnnie Lake
Patrick Cavanaugh
Tom Farmer
Tanisha Phillips

Members Absent

Hal Burns III

Call to Order- The meeting was called to order by Chairman Goodman at 3:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance- Chairman Goodman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approvals of Minutes- The minutes from the November 15, 2012 meeting were approved, unanimously.

Library Presentation- Tom Farmer from the Pima County Library Board gave his presentation "*Libraries and Small Business*". The Pima County Library is now working very closely with small businesses. They work with the MicroBusiness Advancement Center giving small business start-up workshops. They also work with SCORE and the Tucson Metro Chamber. The library has meeting rooms, fax services, and many other services for small business with very little start up monies. Unfortunately, communicating what services are available to small businesses is a challenge. They would like to expand the workshops offered, including using social media for promoting their businesses. They would like to do more marketing to increase business services.

2013 Elections- Chairman and Vice-Chairman and Commissioner at large- Nominations were made for Ken Goodman to continue as Chairman and Tom Ward to serve as Vice-Chairman. Lyra Done will resign as Commissioner for District 1, and has been elected as Commissioner at Large. Motion was made to continue as is, motion seconded and carried unanimously.

Directors Report- Tom Moulton from Economic Development & Tourism spoke about Tourism. Mr. Moulton spoke about "The Loop", a 56 mile bicycle loop around Pima County. More will be done to promote this as a new tourist attraction. This is a part of County Administrator Huckleberry's Economic Plan for 2013.

Film Incentive Bill- will be resurrected again and be presented to the State Legislature once more. The Bill will be sponsored Al Melvin, who has a new District which includes Marana, Oro Valley, as well as Pima, Pinal and Maricopa Counties. Senator Melvin will be pushing the Bill to help support local businesses by creating jobs. There will also be a letter coming from the MTCVB (Metropolitan Tucson Convention & Visitors Bureau) asking for support.

Tourism in Southern Arizona- Mr. Moulton passed out a hand out of the new branding being implemented by the MTCVB. The company that was picked (by a competitive process) was brought in from outside of Tucson. This project would cost around \$300,000 and will be done for approx. \$170,000. There will be four community meetings for the public to participate in the branding. This is all a result of the Audit that was done last year, which concluded the branding needed to be updated.

Chairman's Report-

JTED- Chairman Goodman reported on JTED. Governor Brewer would like to add more money to education, but nothing was said about JTED. Commissioner Done is in the process of getting the contact information for the 13 JTED districts in the State to begin a writing campaign to get more funding for JTED.

Vice Chairman Report - Vice-Chairman Ward spoke to several of the Supervisors and suggested to-do as much as we can to separate the BOS from the Commission and loan decisions. The governing board of loan officers from at least five different finance institutions (banks and credit unions) would be implemented; the SBC would be the advisory board with loans of over \$50,000.00 going to the BOS for approval. The Pima Prosperity Fund Board would be appointed by the Commission and the Commission would then give the final approval.

Motion made by Vice Chairman Ward to present the Concept of a Pima Prosperity Fund Loan Board to the County Attorneys' office for approval. Motion carried, and approved.

Memorandum from Vice Chairman Ward re: NuvOx Pharma. This was brought to the Commission from Supervisor Ray Carroll. This company now has 7 employees and looking to add up to 25 more employees. Vice Chairman Ward will be taking this to Tom Moulton and Hank Atha to see if it can be included in the science corridor project to benefit Pima County residents. This is also something that may be presented to TREO (Tucson Regional Economic Opportunities)

Vertical Job Order Contractors- Vertical contractors build up, plumbers, electricians etc. Most of the horizontal contractors are not small businesses. Vertical contractors are small businesses of less than 100 employees. Vice Chairman Ward has contacted some of the contractors for a meeting to discuss a Committee. Jim Coolish the Executive Director of the Alliance of Construction Trades was very enthusiastic about community participation. More will be done to follow up and create the Committee.

COT Small Business Commission Report- Marion Hook could not attend today's meeting, no report was given.

Other Commissioners Reports -

Commissioner Lake Credit Card Issues- Commissioner Lake discussed the letter to the National Retail Federation regarding the ethics issues concerning the small businesses. Commissioner Lake would like the letter resent to the Federation return receipt to make sure we get a response. Chairman Goodman will be sending a cover memo to be sent along with the letter.

Call to the Public- No response

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 P.M.