



Thursday, February 18th, 2016

3:00PM

<b><u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u></b>		<b><u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u></b>
Lyra Done	Rhonda Pina	Patricia Brown
Linda Morales	Kent Blumenthal	Mark Miller
Ken Goodman	Marion Hook	Joy Soler
Lucretia Free		<b><u>OTHERS PRESENT</u></b>
Gabrielle David- Telephonically		Patrick Cavanaugh
		Patty Richardson

**Call to order**-the meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Free at 3:00 PM.

**Pledge of Allegiance** – the pledge was recited.

**Approval of Minutes**- January 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting Minutes approved unanimously, with correction to DM 50.

*“The A-10’s are remaining in Tucson adding to the economy until 2022. “*

**Chairman’s Report**- no report at this time.

**Vice-Chair Report**- Vice- Chair Done will continue to work with Catalina on its signage issues. HB 1525 to restore JTED funding just passed the Senate 29-0 and was on its way to Gov. Ducey for signature and was signed that evening. The House put another million dollars back in to help the JTED students to get their certificates.

**JTED Report**- Continuation - There was an addition to the language, they will be adding an oversight measure to make the grading system the same as other schools; there will also be a task force added to the program to assist in creating programs that are more uniform throughout the state, and determining the definition of what technical courses are.

**Coordinator’s Report**- Patrick Cavanaugh- World View is progressing; bulldozing will take place in the next three days. Local firms will be working on the construction. They have already made a commitment as part of the negotiations to use local businesses.

Anchor Project with 800+ jobs, and an average wage of \$115,000.00 is back with their 5<sup>th</sup> visit to negotiate. Things are looking good for more development.

Recently during the recession many contractors and construction businesses closed down their local offices and moved to Phoenix, seems like some are returning to Tucson slowly.

Short Term rentals- Commissioner Hook is the Chair of a committee formed by Mayor Rothschild, for looking into short term rentals. Patrick is the County liaison for that committee. The State has created a Bill to assist the counties as to how they will be collecting taxes for the individual counties. Commissioner Hook reported that one of the problems of short term rentals was there was no way of knowing how many short term rentals there actually were. A local college student has created a program called Air DNA, which is giving the statistics needed; Visit Tucson has agreed to buy the stats.

The American Hotel and Lodging Association is working on regulating the industry; and on a Federal level there is a great deal of interest in regulations for collecting the taxes. Several years ago New York collected \$21 million in taxes from Air BNB on the other hand San Francisco lost a battle as far as how many days you can rent your properties. There are many people buying out condos, and apartment buildings to rent out as short term rentals.

Bombardier will be cutting 7,000 jobs, Patrick is looking into this. Those losses will primarily be in Canada and Mexico and should not impact the company's growth in Tucson.

**2016 Work Plan-** Chairwoman Free will be working on the 2016 Work Plan; Patrick suggested working off the 2015 Plan and work on the items that were not completed last year. Many of the items were tied to the Pima County Economic Development Plan. This will be revisited.

- Business with Mexico; there have been many forums and meetings as to how this will be implemented. Teresa Bravo from Pima County is working very closely with a Mexican engineering firm to locate here in Tucson. She is working on putting a packet together to make it easier to go thru the process. Patrick will try to bring her in to speak to the Commission.
- Sheriff's Department and Small Business Forum- Unfortunately Sheriff Nanos is unable to make it for March or April, Patrick will continue to try to set up a presentation for another date.
- Rural Community Outreach- Green Valley, Vail and Mt. Lemmon are being looked at for the next rural community. They all have many small businesses and the SBC would like to pursue one of these communities as the next rural community to be looked at. Commissioner Blumenthal would like to see the Commission go to Green Valley. Commissioner Goodman motioned to go to Green Valley, Vice Chair Done seconded the motion, motion carried. Commissioner Blumenthal will check the calendars to see what day would be good for the SBC to meet with the Green Valley Council and the Green Valley Chamber.
- Diversity, Marriage, Equality Memorial- Sheldon Fishman of the GLBT Chamber will be contacted to see if he would still like to come speak to the Commission.
- JTED- Prop 123 this will be left on the Work Plan since it is an ongoing issue.
- Pima County Prosperity Fund-(PPF) this will continue on the 2016 Work Plan. There is a great demand for funding for small businesses in Pima County.
- SB-1450 HB-2591 Securities Registration; Exemption; Website Operators – will continue in conjunction with ASBA.
- Pima County Sign Code-Vice Chair Done will continue to work with Carmine DeBonis from Development Services on this issue.
- Annual SBC Awards- the Commission will continue the award and the application will be updated. Commissioners Blumenthal and Morales will be working to revamp the application.
- Clean it or Lien It- is a clean-up project that would have businesses clean up their abandoned properties or a lien would be placed on said property. This is something that will be looked into since Pima County is a State entity and needs permission from the State to continue.
- Local Chambers- more communication with local chambers

**City of Tucson Small Business Commission Report-** no quorum, no meeting, no report.

**Call to the Public-** No response.

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 PM.