



Thursday, March 17th, 2016

3:00PM

<p><b><u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u></b>          Lucretia Free          Lyra Done                      Linda Morales          Kent Blumenthal              Ken Goodman          Marion Hook          Patricia Brown          Gabrielle David- Telephonically          Rhonda Pina-Telephonically</p>	<p><b><u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u></b>          Mark Miller          Joy Soler</p> <p><b><u>OTHERS PRESENT</u></b>          Patrick Cavanaugh          Aurora Hernandez</p>
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**Call to order**-the meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Free at 3:00 PM.

**Pledge of Allegiance** – the pledge was led by Chairwoman Free.

**Approval of Minutes**- Due to lack of minute copies of the February 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, minutes were deferred to April meeting for approval.

**Chairman’s Report**- Chair Free spoke to Sheriff Nanos and he has agreed to come in and speak to the Commission in April. She and Patrick Cavanaugh are working on bringing in Joe Erceg from AZ Small Business Assoc.

**Vice-Chair Report**- Vice- Chair Done continues to work with Catalina volunteering at the children’s fair. Oro Valley is having an election for Town Council and Commissioner Pina will be running for that office.

**Coordinator’s Report**- Patrick Cavanaugh- the Economic Development team is continuing its work with foreign companies. Today there was a 2 hour meeting with the Japan Times to discuss the Sonoran Corridor as well as other economic activities going on in Pima County.

They have also put together data as to how many foreign companies are in Pima County. More data will be collected in the future.

**Community Visit**- Commissioner Blumenthal spoke to the Green Valley Council to inform them the SBC would like to go to Green Valley to speak to the small businesses. Commissioner Blumenthal is setting up a meeting for October 20<sup>th</sup>. It was discussed as to what time the Commission would like to go. The GV Council meets 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. they would like to have the SBC meeting at 10:30 since the audience is already there from their previous meeting. Commissioner Blumenthal reported they have a Preferred Vendor Program which has a listing of the businesses in Green Valley which will be notified of the meeting. Commissioner Goodman suggested working with the Pima County Communications Department to get the word out to the businesses.

Chairwoman Free moved to have the meeting in Green Valley on October 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am, Commissioner Morales seconded the motion, motion carried unanimously. The Commission will be working on the October 20<sup>th</sup> Green Valley meeting.

It was now suggested to bring in someone from the Communications Department to come to the next SBC meeting to discuss the advertising of the GV Community meeting as well as the SBC Awards. Patrick will speak to Mark Evans to come to the April meeting.

### **2016 Work Plan-**

#### **SHORT TERM**

- *Business with Mexico*, Teresa Bravo from Pima County Economic Development is working very closely with her counterparts in Mexico on putting a packet together to make it easier to go thru the process of doing business here in the US. Patrick will try to bring her in to speak to the Commission, as well as Christina Parisi, Senior International Trade Specialist from US Commercial Services.

Vice Chair Done would like to bring in Felipe Garcia from Visit Tucson to give a presentation on how to do business with the people from Mexico when they come to shop here. It was suggested Felipe Garcia come to visit the SBC possibly in conjunction with Christina Parisi.

- *Pima County Sheriff's Department and Small Business Forum*- Sheriff Nanos is scheduled for the April meeting to discuss PCSD and small business.
- *Green Valley Rural Community Outreach*- the Commission will be going to Green Valley for the 2016 Community Outreach. More planning will be done thru October.
- *JTED/Work Force and Education Issues*- This will be left on the Work Plan since it is an ongoing issue.

At this point Vice Chair Done motioned for the 2016 Work Plan be continued to the April meeting since there wasn't enough time to finish the discussion. Motion seconded by Chair Free, motion passed unanimously, Work Plan to continue in April.

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

**Other Commissioners Reports**- Commissioner Blumenthal presented a Resolution in support of the passage of *HB 2592 "Nonprofit Corporations; Electronic Voting"* to allow Green Valley Recreation to deliver ballots through an electronic voting system. Commissioner Blumenthal proposed the SBC support the legislation by presenting it to the BOS. After much discussion it was decided to have Commissioner Blumenthal write a letter to be vetted by the Commission to forward to the BOS.

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

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 PM.