



Thursday, May 19th, 2016

3:00PM

<p><u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u> Lucretia Free Lyra Done Kent Blumenthal Joy Soler Gabrielle David- Telephonically</p>	<p><u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u> Rhonda Pina Patricia Brown Ken Goodman</p> <p><u>OTHERS PRESENT</u> Joe Erceg Aurora Hernandez</p>	<p><u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u> Patrick Cavanaugh Patty Richardson</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.

Approvals of Minutes- Minutes of the April 21st meeting were approved unanimously.

Chair’s Report- Chairwoman Free relinquished her time to Joe Erceg from ASBA.

Vice-Chair Report- Vice-Chair Done will continue to work with Development Services on the Pima County Sign Code.

Joe Erceg- AZ Small Business Association - Mr. Erceg gave an update on crowd funding. Arizona passed HB 2591, being one of the first states to pass the bill. At this time there is only one portal where people can invest in a company. There will be an announcement of a new portal in the next few weeks.

There was also discussion in using ASBA to assist in the 2016 SBC Awards. They will send the application to all of its members to try to get more applications this year.

Coordinator’s Report- Patrick Cavanaugh reported the Caterpillar Company is moving its headquarters to Tucson, bringing approximately 600 jobs to the community. World View has broken ground at its new facility.

2016 Work Plan- There was further discussion on the 2016 Work Plan. The long term issues were discussed. There needs to be more business discussions with Mexican businesses. Patrick will attempt to bring in Felipe Garcia, Visit Tucson, Teresa Bravo, PC Economic Development and Christina Parisi from US Commercial Services to speak to the Commission regarding their extensive work with Mexican businesses. Visit Tucson has recently opened an outreach office in Hermosillo; there will be more discussion at the next meeting.

The SBC will reach out to local small business entities such as the Women’s Business Center located at the YWCA, as well as MAC, Tucson Association of Realtors, Local First, Edible Baja AZ. They will also contact the local chambers as well as NAWBO to see if there is anything we can do to assist them.

City of Tucson Small Business Commission Report- City of Tucson did have an April meeting; they have been having quorum issues since they do not have a full Commission, they will be working with Andy Squires to try to fill their current Commissioner openings.

Other Commissioners Reports- Commissioner Blumenthal reported the State Legislature passed the electronic voting bill. He also reported he is working with his IT staff to revamp the SBC Award application.

Commissioner Soler will be holding a fundraiser at her coffee shop Revolutionary Grounds featuring local artists and their paintings. Everyone is encouraged to attend and buy some local art.

Call to the Public- No response.

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 PM.