



Thursday, November 16, 2017

3:00PM

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>TELEPHONICALLY</u>	<u>OTHERS PRESENT</u>	
Lucretia Free	Joy Soler	Aurora Hernandez	Patrick Cavanaugh
Marion Hook	Rhonda Pina		
Kent Blumenthal			
Ken Goodman			
Lyra Done			
Mark Miller			

**Call to order**-the meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Free at 3:10 PM.

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

**Approvals of Minutes**- Minutes of the October 19 meeting were approved, unanimously.

**Chairs’ Report- Chairwoman Free** –Chair Free relinquished her time.

**Coordinators Report**- Patrick Cavanaugh gave an update on the job numbers. He reported the numbers for Pima County are down again. Over the previous year, we are down 1%, over the previous month we are at a 0.6% gain. Not sure as to why this is happening, there is a plan to send a delegation from Pima County, City of Tucson and Sun Corridor to Phoenix to discuss with the AZ Commerce Authority and try to help some of the smaller counties, which are having an even bigger drop.

The Eller Economic Outlook Report is coming up in December. Dr. Hamman is also wondering why the numbers are down. There are more companies coming into Pima County and the numbers should be climbing up. Retail seems to be going down affecting many of the small businesses in Pima County. We are also losing the tradesman that are going to Texas and other hurricane effected areas for higher wages.

There is a big question as to why all the companies are going to Maricopa County instead of Pima County. It may be possible the Tucson Int’l Airport does not have the direct flights that are available from Phoenix Int’l. There will be more discussion at the next meeting.

**JTED Follow-Up**- Patrick followed up with the letter to JTED. Commissioner Goodman motioned to accept and send the letter to JTED. Chair Free seconded, motion passed unanimously. The letter will go to JTED and as well as the BOS along with a request for a Resolution. (letter encl.)

**Community Outreach Follow -Up- Summerhaven** –The Summerhaven business community and the SBC sub-committee members had another meeting on November 11. There are several major issues to work on; the trash pickup issue is one of the greatest problems. The Committee will work with Pima County to issue an RFP to find a trash hauling company to service all the businesses as opposed to the individual systems they have in place now.

Much of the problem is the visitors coming up to the mountain, dump their trash on the mountain and the vendors need to pay to haul it back down. The SBC will assist the community in forming a Chamber, this will allow all the businesses to have one voice altogether.

**Pima County Sales Tax Committee**- Commissioner Schutte resigned from the committee. Commissioner Miller volunteered to replace her. Commissioner Blumenthal motioned for the nomination to be accepted and Commissioner Done seconded, motion passed unanimously, Commissioner Miller will be the SBC representative for the Committee and will report at the next SBC meeting.

**SBC 2017 Business Award**- There was discussion as to whether the Award should be continued. The SBC seems to be spending a large amount of its time on the Award selection and Chair Free feels the Commission should be spending more time on other issues such as Mt. Lemmon. Another suggestion was to discontinue the monetary portion of the Award. Diane Frisch, Director of the Attractions and Tourism Department has volunteered to donate the additional \$500 needed for the non-profit category; this donation is **only** for the 2017 award. Commissioner Blumenthal motioned to accept the donation, Commissioner Hook seconded; motion passed unanimously to accept the donation. In 2018, the awards will be funded by the Economic Development Department.

The link to Commissioner Blumenthal's on line application will be posted by the PC Communications Department to the media and several other entities on November 21<sup>st</sup> the deadline for the applications to be submitted is January 12, 2018 at 5:00 PM. Aurora will send out the nominations as they come in so the Commissioners will be better prepared for the selections to be made at the January 18 meeting if there are enough applications received. Commissioner Hook will work on a business plan to try to simplify the process for 2018. There will be more discussion at the January meeting to discuss if the Award should be continued.

**City of Tucson Small Business Commission**- No report no meeting due to lack of quorum.

**Other Commissioners Reports**- No reports

**Future Agenda Items**-

- Project Prosperity-Development Services
- Project Prosperity- Waste Water Reclamation
- SBC 2018 Small Business Awards
- Workforce Development Sub-committee

**Call to the Public**- No response

**Adjournment**- Meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.