MEMBERS PRESENT  TELEPHONICALLY  OTHERS PRESENT
Lucretia Free  Gabrielle David  Aurora Hernandez
Ken Goodman  Rhonda Pina  Patrick Cavanaugh
Kent Blumenthal  Mark Miller  Steve Washburn
Lyra Done

Call to order - the meeting was called to order by Chairman Goodman at 3:10 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance - Commissioner Done led the pledge.

Approvals of Minutes - Minutes of the January 18 meeting were approved, unanimously.

Chairman’s Report - Chairman Goodman - Chairman Goodman had a JTED update. He was at a Legislative Business and Industry meeting where they were given an update on the House Bills for JTED. The Bill is looking very positive, this is before the Senate at this time and then moving to the House. It is a compromise bill, it is not all the ninth grade funding, there are five major courses being funded automotive, construction, fire, technology and culinary. These are the five major programs for the ninth grade funding. The funding for JTED is 95.5% at this time; it is very challenging to create a program with 5% less, this year it looks like it will be restored to 100%.

There is also a name change on the Legislative Agenda. The name will be changed to Career and Technical Educational District (CTED), which will make it much easier for people to understand what it really is.

Dr. Storm, Superintendent of JTED is retiring; the person taking over for him is Cathy Prather. She used to be TUSD Technical Director and then on to Sunnyside School District. Recently she has been working on the Business and Industry JTED Commission along with Chairman Goodman. She will be a good fit; she has an extensive background with JTED.

Lastly, this coming Tuesday will be the presentation of the Small Business Awards. As many of the Commissioners that can attend please do so. We will be first on the Agenda and would like to have a good representation.

Vice Chairman’s Report - Vice-Chairman Miller - Vice Chairman Miller reported he has attended the Tax Committee meeting. They are a committee of community members representing different business groups, low income and elderly community as well as transportation experts. There are three major issues being discussed.

1. Should Pima County adopt a 1/2cent general sales tax?
2. Should the monies be spent on road repair or property tax reduction?
3. Should the tax be temporary or permanent?

There are there two meetings left; the goal is to reach a consensus on what should be done. At the recent meeting, Mike Varney gave a report of the business polls. Seems like businesses would like the monies spent on roads. The business community is more interested in fixing the existing roads rather than add more. The last meeting will be in March and there will be a further report in April.
Coordinators Report: Patrick Cavanaugh reported there are several site selectors back in Pima County, they were here last spring and have returned for more talks with Pima County. They are very interested in the large parcels available. They are also very interested that Tucson is on the railway route to and from Mexico as well as Canada. These are very influential people all are from Fortune 500 companies. They are going on a site tour to the Caterpillar site, Downtown Tucson, Rio Nuevo, Raytheon, Aerospace Research Campus, Worldview and Vector. There will be more for SBC to follow-up on work force development in future meetings.

Mr. Cavanaugh also reported the new Pima County Economic Development Plan is now in process, there will be a need for the SBC to review due to there not being enough to assist small businesses. Patrick will be presenting it to the Commission at the May or June meeting. This will be a standing item on future agendas.

JTED Follow-Up: Commissioner Goodman reported on JTED during the Chairman’s report.

Community Outreach Follow-Up Summerhaven: The Summerhaven business community and the SBC subcommittee members had another meeting on January 30. The real focus at this time is to formalize the group to have a better representation. The next meeting will be February 23, at 2:00 PM, location TBA with Senator Gail Griffin. More follow-up at the March meeting.

There will be an Environmental Business study done by Alexis Washburn of Boston University. There are so many needs on the mountain that she will attempt to streamline and focus on the major needs, which will make the process much easier to tackle. She will also be advising on grants available.

SBC 2018 Work Plan
1. Work Force Development
   • CTED –Cathy Prather
   • Pima Community College
   • SAMP- So AZ Manufacturing Program
2. Economic Development Plan
   • What does SBC want included?
   • Small Business Assistance
   • CTED
3. 2018 Small Business Awards
4. Summer Haven

City of Tucson Small Business Commission: No report no meeting due to lack of quorum. There was discussion as to should this item be remove from the Agenda. It was decided to leave the item on. Chairman Goodman is the liaison to the City Commission. Patrick suggested the Commission draft a letter to the Mayor and City Council to urge them to continue the City Commission. More to follow in March.

Other Commissioner’s Reports: None

Call to the Public: No Response
Future Agenda Items:
- PC Health Department
- Visit Tucson
- Project Prosperity-Development Services
- Project Prosperity- Waste Water Reclamation
- Economic Development Plan
- 2018 Work Plan
- Local First
- Workforce Development Sub-committee

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.