

**Pima County Small Business Commission
Meeting**

Thursday, June 4, 2020
3:00 P.M.

Video Conference/Telephonic Meeting

SUMMARY OF MEETING

Committee Members Present

Kent Blumenthal, Chairman
Bernie Wiegandt, Vice-Chair
Ken Goodman
Jenni Zimmerman
Raul Aguirre
Gabrielle David
Juan Padres
Mark Miller

Committee Members Absent

Lucretia Free
Guillermo Gallegos

Staff that Addressed the Committee

Pima County:

Patrick Cavanaugh, Economic Development
Deseret Romero, Economic Development

Guests on the call:

Beth Borozan, Supervisor Steve Christy's Office
Maria Klucarova, Supervisor Sharon Bronson's Office

MOTIONS

MOTION: Commissioner Ken Goodman moved, seconded by Commissioner Raul Aguirre, to approve the May 22, 2020 meeting minutes. Motion approved 8-0.

MOTION: Commissioner Goodman moved, seconded by Commissioner Aguirre, to create a subcommittee for discussing and developing an alternative award focused on small businesses and their response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Motion approved 8-0.

MOTION: Commissioner Aguirre moved, seconded by Commissioner Zimmerman to adjourn the meeting. Motion approved 8-0.

MEETING SUMMARY

1. Call to Order

The meeting began at 3:02 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Roll call was conducted by Ms. Deseret Romero to start the meeting.

3. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Commissioner Ken Goodman moved, seconded by Commissioner Raul Aguirre, to approve the May 22, 2020 meeting minutes. Motion approved 8-0.

4. Chair's Report

- Chairman Blumenthal thanked Ms. Ellen Kirton for attending and agreeing to present to the Small Business Commission.
- The Chairman informed the Commission that Juan Ciscomani with the Governor's Office would be attending the Commission's June 18th meeting.
- The Chairman provided a brief overview of the June 4th agenda and his process for making sure the Commissioners had the opportunity to engage in the conversation.

5. Coordinator's Report: Pima County new and potential small business assistance program

Commission Coordinator Patrick Cavanaugh updated the Commission on the County's efforts to continue to support small businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- SOLD Voucher Program (Collaborative effort by Pima County and City of Tucson)

6. Presentation and discussion: Ellen Kirton, Director, Pima Community College Small Business Development Center

Ms. Kirton provided the Commission with a detailed summary and update of the small business associated loans created by the federal government (SBA and Payroll Protection Program) due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Kirton shared the pros and cons of each program and what was learned from the process.

In addition, Ms. Kirton answered the Commissioner's specific questions related to the programs.

7. Update: Small Business Commissioner at-large vacancy

Mr. Cavanaugh provided a brief update on the at-large commission vacancy status.

The following steps would be taken in accepting letters of interest for the Small Business Commission at-large vacancy:

- Finalized list of qualifications
- Website/Media/Social Media
- June 1 – 10 (accepting letters of interest)

Letters of interest would be provided to the Commission soon after the June 10th deadline.

8. 2020 Small Business Awards Program – Eligibility Criteria & Establishment of Subcommittee

Chairman Blumenthal proposed the Commission create a subcommittee to discuss and development an alternative award focused on small businesses and their response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

MOTION: Commissioner Goodman moved, seconded by Commissioner Aguirre, to create a subcommittee for discussing and developing an alternative award focused on small businesses and their response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Motion approved 8-0.

The following Commissioners volunteered be on the subcommittee:

- Chairman Blumenthal
- Commissioner Wiegandt
- Commissioner Goodman
- Commissioner Aguirre

9. State of Arizona and Pima County COVID-19 Related Items

a. Update: 'Pima County Best Practices Pledge' Badge Implementation

Mr. Cavanaugh provide a brief update and answered question on the Pima County Badge program.

- Restaurant Focused (but not limited)
- Voluntary Program
- Guidelines developed by Back to Business Taskforce (community businesses/leaders)

b. Discussion: Repository for Business Practices to Limit and Mitigate the Spread of COVID-19

Chairman Blumenthal provided a brief summary of the idea to create a platform for businesses to share their operating experiences – dos and don'ts.

The Commission discussed the pros and cons of the proposal.

- Fear of liability issues
- Possible conflict with Pima County/CDC guidelines

c. Discussion: 30+ day Review of Pima County B2B Regulations

Mr. Cavanaugh cited the County Administrator's May 18th memorandum stating that the review would be estimated at 30 days or longer post the Governor's Executive Order to lift the stay at home order.

Chairman Blumenthal requested that the item be placed on the Commission's next meeting agenda.

10. Agenda Items for June 18, 2020 Meeting

The following agenda items were discussed:

- Presentation by Juan Ciscomani, Governor's Office
- 2020 Small Business Commission Awards Subcommittee
- Review of Back to Business Regulations
- Best Practices Pledge Badge update
- At-large Appointment Election

Due to time, Mr. Cavanaugh recommended that the Commission reduce the agenda to focus on:

- Presentation by Juan Ciscomani, Governor's Office
- At-large Appointment Election

11. Call to the Public

The following attendees spoke at call to the public:

- Beth Borozan, Supervisor Steve Christy's Office. Ms. Borozan inquired as to an update from the Small Business Commission regarding the review of the PPE impact on the local business community. Mr. Cavanaugh noted that the Commission could not respond during Call to the Public but that he would call Ms. Borozan to answer any of her questions.
- Maria Klucarova, Supervisor Sharon Bronson's Office greeted the Commission.

12. Adjournment (4:35 p.m.)

MOTION: Commissioner Aguirre moved, seconded by Commissioner Zimmerman to adjourn the meeting. Motion approved 8-0.