

Pima County Small Business Commission
County Administration Building
130 W. Congress, 1st Floor
Thursday, February 17, 2011
3:00 P.M.

Members Present

Tom Ward
Ken Goodman
Lyra Done
Jerry Long
Dabney Philabaum
Patricia Brown
Pat Taviss
Edie Lake
Joy Soler
John Peters

Others Present

Tom Moulton
Debbie Chandler
Luke Smith

Call to Order- The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ward at 3:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance- Chairman Ward led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Introductions- Commission introductions were made.

Debbie Chandler, the representative from the City of Tucson Small Business Commission was introduced.

John Peters was also introduced as a new member of the SBC. Mr. Peters owns PakMail in the Casas Adobes area. Welcome John Peters.

Marion Hook was the guest last month and since then she was selected as *Women of the Year in Enterprising Women Magazine*. She was one of twelve; nation wide.

Approval of Minutes- Minutes from January 20th meeting were approved, unanimously.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.

George Widugiris- Training for Bidders and Vendors- George Widugiris from the Procurement Department came and spoke to the SBC re: training in the future. The Procurement Dept. will be doing training at the Southern Arizona Procurement Fair, and other training in Pima County for the Pima Core Project.

There will be many topics covered during the upcoming workshops, Doing Business with Pima County, Introduction to New Pima County Vendor Registration System, E-Contracts and many more. (listing encl.) All trainings are open to the public. If anyone has any questions they can contact George Widugiris or Hope Sikora at Pima County Procurement Department 740-8161.

CRSPS- (Committee to Review State Procurement Statutes) the first meeting of CRSPS was held on Thursday, February 17th. The Committee will be reviewing and studying Title 34 in the next few months and will be preparing and submitting a report to the BOS in October 2011. The timeline is tentatively set for the Committee to meet monthly. Meetings will be held the fourth Wednesday of every month.

Revolving Loan Funds – Tom Ward met with County Administrator Mr. Huckelberry regarding the revolving loans funds. The idea was met favorably by the County Administrator with the only problem being the lack of funds. Tom Ward went to Bob Ramirez, at Vantage West Credit Union, and spoke to Lisa Gillette re: revolving loan funds. Vantage West is definitely interested and willing to meet with Tom Ward and Ken Goodman. Tom Ward is looking for approx. half a million dollars from the Credit Union and see if we can get Pima County to match. The City of Tucson is also looking into starting a fund.

DIRECTORS REPORT

MTCVB Performance Audit Committee- The Performance Committee has held 3 meeting. They are looking into companies to put together all the data collected. There are several companies nation wide that do performance audits. There are 4-5 special consultants who do this. The City of Tucson has put together a citizens group to do their audit. The goal for the Committee is May 15 for their final report.

Jobs Bill is at the Legislature was approved today and will be going to the Governors desk in the near future. Tom Moulton will be distributing an electronic version of the Bill.

Film Incentive Bill- The incentive bill is moving through the Committees at the Legislature. Incentives are being offered to companies filming here in Arizona. There is a major motion picture being filmed here, "Goats"; written by a Tucson writer. They are shooting in the Sabino Canyon area, and will finish it in New Mexico.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Annual Small Business Award- We are now in March and nominations still need to come in by mid-March. Deadline for nominations is March 15, (nomination form enclosed) Winner will be announced at the BOS meeting, Tuesday, April 12, 2011. Finalists and semi-finalists will be notified approximately 1-2 weeks prior. No nominations have come in as of yet.

Jerry Long has been communicating with JTED to see if they will be able to make the award again this year.

NEW BUSINESS

Forum of Pima County Organizations Tasked with Aiding Small Business- Chairman Ward would like to have a forum with all the Chambers and other organizations tasked with aiding small businesses. It was suggested to pick a date in late May to have a forum. Commissioners Lea Marquez-Peterson and Pat Taviss will be working together to set up the Forum. Motion to have the forum May 12th from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM was called by Ken Goodman, seconded by Pat Taviss, motion carried.

Other Commissioners Reports-

Edie Lake- Edie Lake and her husband have been invited by Sahuarita High School to speak to the students re: their automotive business. The Lake's will be attending and speaking with the students to discuss how to run an automotive business.

Ken Goodman- spoke about the City of Tucson Small Business Commission; Karen Ulich and Regina Romero were the guest speakers at the meeting. The next meeting of COTSBC will be at the Ward 6 Council office. Each Ward will be doing business forums for the small businesses in Tucson. City of Tucson will have a forum at different Wards on a monthly basis.

Joy Soler- Reminder of The Festival of Books @ the University of Arizona Mall, this is the third year of the Festival. All the local bookstores and national and local authors, local publishers will be there. Revolutionary Grounds will be there serving coffee and displaying their books.

Call to the Public- Luke Smith business manager from Arivaca Boys Ranch was there to speak to the SBC. They are an out-patient facility with a fully accredited high school, equine therapy and 5 on-site counselors for troubled boys from 13-17 years of age. Mr. Smith would like to explore possibilities for additional funding for his program. His contact number is 520-261-6117 and the website is: Arivacaboysranch.com. Chairman Ward will be contacting him at a later date to discuss financial possibilities.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM