

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

Members Present

Tom Ward
Lea Marquez-Peterson
Ken Goodman
Lyra Done
Dabney Philabaum
Patricia Brown
Joy Soler
Edie Lake

Others Present

Catherine Strickland
Hank Atha

Members Absent

John Peters
John Peck
Jerry Long

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.

Approvals of Minutes- The minutes from the October 20, meeting were approved, unanimously.

CRSPS Legislation- Chairman Ward thanked everyone on the CRSPS Committee. The BOS approved the legislation with no discussion. Three Supervisors mentioned the fact that there was such a good turnout of Commission members at the hearing.

Chairman Ward and Commissioner Goodman met with Martin Willet and George Widugiris to discuss the language of the CRSPS Legislation. It is possible that it can be written in such a way that it may be adopted by Pima County without any State legislation needed. We need to see what the attorneys say.

Chairman's Report

- **Revolving Loan Fund Committee-** Chairman Ward will ask Debbie Chandler for samples of mission statements for other business revolving loan funds. He suggested the committee meet for 45 minutes prior to regular scheduled SBC meetings. Commissioner Marquez-Petersen stated Pima County already has Industrial Development Authority which may be the same thing. They lend to non-profit organizations, Chairman Ward will research.
- **Committee for Legislative Education (CLE)-** Chairman Ward and Commissioner Goodman met with Martin Willett and discussed SBC's new standing committee- CLE. There needs to be a process to keep an eye on bills that come up. Commissioner Goodman would like to see JTED reinstated for high school freshmen. Southern AZ has a lot of bi-partisan support. Senator Antennori would like to help to get JTED reinstated. JTED administrators are trying to think smarter to redevelop JTED to integrate into regular academic system. For example in automotive there is a lot of math involved. Administrators are trying to add math to the JTED courses to get the kids back into JTED. The proposed bill should also include a provision to allow non-certified teachers to teach classes.
- Commission voted to cancel December 2011 meeting, unless emergency. Commissioner Done motioned to cancel, Commissioner Goodman seconded, motion carried.

New Business

- Chairman Ward has received questions regarding bond regulations for small business contractors: those wishing to start contracting business felt bonds are too high. There are two types of bonds, performance and payment bonds.

Commissioner Goodman states this goes back to Title 34. It's an insurance policy and rules and regulations are very tight. These bonds assure that the job will get done, if the contractor goes under during the project, then the bonding company steps in and makes sure the work will be completed. It was suggested the SBC should go to bonding companies to discuss making it easier to get bonded but not changing legislation. Performance bonds are statutorily required; the County does not impose bonding requirements. The Commission will look into more information on this item.

- **Nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair.** Chairman Ward enjoyed almost 3 years and this is one of the best of all Commissions he has chaired over the years. In the last few years we have always had a quorum, and have tackled a vast amount of topics.

Chairman Ward nominated Commissioner Goodman for Chairman, nominations closed. Commissioner Goodman nominated Chairman Ward for Vice-chair, nomination seconded and closed. Elections will take place at the January 2012 meeting.

- **City of Tucson SBC-** Debbie Chandler not present. Commissioner Goodman reported no quorum, so no report.
- **Commissioner Marquez-Petersen-**The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce sent letter to the Pima County Clerk of the Board for a listing of business related commissions to appoint members for minority businesses. During research it was discovered there is a *Minority Business Enterprise Commission*, fully boarded. Commissioner Marquez will talk Jan Leshner, who is on that board, to find out more about it.
- **Commissioner Soler-** Fourth Avenue Merchants will be meeting re: modern streetcar. The Merchants Association is concerned some changes are in violation to verbal agreements made to the merchants. It also looks like the 4th Ave. Street Fair may be moved making it smaller causing an income loss or moved to downtown causing a complete loss of income. Merchants Assoc. is concerned and will present its concerns to City of Tucson, regarding the Streetcar construction.
- **Call to the Public-** Asst. County Administrator Hank Atha apologized for missing the last two meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 4:18 P.M.