

**Pima County Small Business Commission  
County Administration Building  
130 W. Congress, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Thursday June 18, 2015  
3:00 P.M.**

**Members Present**

Lyra Done  
Ken Goodman  
Lucretia Free  
Jerry Long  
Patricia Brown  
Linda Morales  
Gabrielle David

**Others Present**

Patrick Cavanaugh  
Aurora Hernandez  
Bety Allen

**Members Absent**

Joy Soler  
Rhonda Pina

**Call to Order**- The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Done at 3:08 pm.

**Pledge of Allegiance**- Chairwoman Done led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Introductions**- the Commissioners introduced themselves to Bety Allen, Executive Director of the Ajo District Chamber of Commerce.

**Ajo District Chamber of Commerce “Building sustainable economy all the way of the Ajo Way”**- Bety Allen, Executive Director of the Ajo District Chamber of Commerce gave a presentation and overview on the economic growth in Ajo, Arizona. The overview included:

The Ajo District Chamber of Commerce has moved to the Historic Train Depot, greatly increasing the public contact with visitors from all over the world.

Ajo is a small rural community with a population of approximately 2,500 during the summer months and less in the winter due to the closure of the mine in 1980. Since then Pima County and Freeport Mac Moran have been assisting Ajo financially in an effort to increase the economic development and tourism base.

Ajo is surrounded by Organ Pipe National Monument and Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge where there are now environmentalist, artists, bicyclists and many star gazers coming to Ajo. The Curley school has been converted to artist and artisan residences/studios. Many people stop in Ajo on their way to Rocky Point.

**Approvals of Minutes**- The minutes from the May 21<sup>st</sup> 2015 meeting were approved, unanimously.

**Pima County Coordinator’s Report- Patrick Cavanaugh-**

- JTED letter to Supervisor Bronson- Mr. Cavanaugh and Chairwoman Done are penning a letter to Supervisor Bronson in support of the JTED program. The letter will be forwarded to the BOS as soon as it has been reviewed and approved by Chairwoman Done.
- Resolution to extend commissioner terms- Mr. Cavanaugh is working on a Resolution to go before the BOS to extend the commissioner terms to run concurrent with their appointing Supervisor.

**Chair’s Report-**

- Catalina Update- Chairwoman Done had a meeting with Carmine DeBonis from PC Development Services. She and Mr. DeBonis set up a follow up meeting for Tuesday, October 27, 2015, 9:00-12:00 at the Golder Ranch Fire Station Training Center, 3885 E. Golder Ranch Drive, Catalina, AZ to keep the businesses in Catalina updated of the construction issues.

Chairwoman Done will work with Barbara McClure from Impact of Southern AZ to get the word out to the Catalina businesses. Mr. Cavanaugh will be sending out a press release through the PC Communications Department. She would also like for several of the Commissioners to attend if possible.

- 2015 Small Business Award- Commissioner Free is the Award Chair this year. Commissioner Free will be consulting with the Commission to set a date for the deadline and the award. She and Commissioner David from Ajo will be posting the award applications in their newspapers. We will also be contacting Tucson Trophy again this year for the award plaques. Chairwoman Done would like to have the Award given in October 2015. There will be further discussion at a future meeting.
- July and August meetings- there will be a quorum check in the next few weeks to see what dates everyone is available in July and August. There was some discussion as to the possibility of changing the meeting date to a date other than the third Thursday of the month. There will be further discussion on this topic at a later date.

**Vice Chair Report-** Vice Chair Pina was not able to attend, but a report was given by Patrick Cavanaugh who has been working closely with Commissioner Pina on the Pima Prosperity Fund. Mr. Cavanaugh reported that Vice Chair Pina is working with the Arizona Multi-Bank and attempting to get someone in to speak to the Commission. In addition to AZ Multi-Bank, she is having discussions with Small Business Bank and Accion. When Chairman Ward contacted Accion they were giving out micro-business loans of \$5000.00, since then they have been lending up to \$250,000. There will be more at a future meeting.

**JTED-** Commissioner Goodman- Legislative initiatives are the key words for JTED at this point. The Legislators are saying they made a mistake. Local Legislators are saying they will be reviewing the legislation again. School budgets are being greatly affected. Ajo is attempting to balance their budget they have used up their "rainy day fund". There are several programs that are being cut in Ajo.

**City of Tucson SBC** - City SBC meeting was cancelled due to lack of quorum, therefore nothing to report. Marion Hook has asked Patrick Cavanaugh to be on a Committee to look into the short term rentals.

**Other Commissioners Reports** –Chairwoman Done reported Commissioner Soler is setting up a meeting with Fred Ronstadt, President of the Fourth Avenue Merchants Association to see when he would be able to speak at a future meeting.

**Call to the Public-** No response.

**Meeting adjourned at 4:45 P.M.**