



Small, Minority, and Women-Owned Business Commission (SMWBC)
Thursday, February 26, 2015 3:00 p.m.
City Hall, Mayor and Council Chambers
255 W. Alameda St.
Tucson, AZ

Minutes for 02/26/15

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Meeting called to order by Marion Hook at 3:01 p.m. Those present and absent were:

Members Present:

Patricia Richardson	Representative, Mayor's Office
Barney Hilton Murray	Representative, Ward 2
Jason Tankersley	Representative Ward 2
Brian Becksted	Representative, Ward 5
Ronnie Reyna	Representative, Ward 5
Sheldon Fishman	Representative, Ward 6
Rebecca Safford	Representative, Ward 6
Ken Goodman (arrived at 3:12 PM)	Non-Voting

Absent:

Shani Stewart	Representative, Ward 1
Susan Alexander	Representative, Ward 3
Doug Jackson	Representative, Ward 4

Others Present:

Camila Bekat	Economic Development Specialist
Traci Shepherd	AA, Department of Procurement
Jennifer Toothaker	TDOT
Beth Abramovitz	TDOT
Margo Garcia	Member of the Broadway Coalition
Dr. Ron Spark	Member of the Broadway Coalition

2. Call to the Audience

Margo Garcia, member of the Broadway Coalition: Regarding demo of 37 buildings/businesses to be demolished on Broadway as part of the Broadway Plan. Requesting "narrow plan" made public for comment.

Dr. Ron Spark, member of the Broadway Coalition: Regarding "narrow plan" not presented to the public. Plans to be made available March 5, deadline for comment is March 11.

3. Approval of Minutes – January 22,2015

Motion to approve minutes passed 8 - 0.

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4. Chairperson's Update – Marion Hook

Regarding small business community, business is up. Most sectors have noted an increase. Thirteen (13) percent increase (construction) over Jan 2014, and Twenty-two (22) percent increase over Feb 2014. Design perspective, positive increase. Ken Goodman, economy sputtering still (const), no consistency. Discussion was held, no action taken.

5. Discussion: Broadway Blvd RTA Project – Jennifer Toothaker & Beth Abramovitz

Map reflecting 2 miles of roadway between Euclid and Country Club along Broadway. RTA, Pima County, City of Tucson ;and some PAG funded project. Total budget is 71.3 million. Planning and design phase since June 2012. Task force of 13, to represent Broadway business/property owners interests. Staff recommend plan, goal to have task force recommended plan go to open house and Mayor/Council. Target to M/C is May 19 for alignment adoption. Two major decisions since October 2014. One: M/C supported a six lane roadway and adopted a general alignment. Two: RTA board approved the 6 lane in December 2014. Comments deadline for emails is midnight March 11. Mailed comments to be postmarked by March 9. Or hand deliver to 6th floor Transportation department for COT, by 5pm March 11. Email: Broadway@tucsonaz.gov to be added for update information.

Motion made by Shelly Fishman to present alternate plan at meeting on March 2 & 3 and to start 2 week extended comment period, beginning March 5 (when the plan is made public).

Second by Ronnie Reyna. Passed 4-3.

6. Diversity Marriage Equality Memorial – Shelly Fishman

Shelly reported on Memorial: M/C decided on Memorial in October 2014. Memorial asserts and COT agrees to support the business justification for marriage equality, GLBT protections and work diversity in Tucson. Approved of formal language in form of Memorial, to Mayor, Governor and Legislature.

Motion made by Shelly Fishman to recommend Commission to approve Memorial.

Second by Jason Tankersley. Passed 6 - 1

7. Short Term Rental Update – Camila Bekat and Marion Hook

Camila: Meeting held with Andy Squire and Greg Jackson to review M/C direction. Andy is putting together the staff recommendation to M/C, hopefully on next or following M/C agenda.

Marion: Short terms rentals for money requires Business License and posted. Home-Away is trying to help with this. Enforcement is problematic. Discussion was held, no action taken.

8. Newsletter Update – Barney Hilton Murray

Status is the same, will be on time for 2nd quarter not for 1st quarter. Content issue. Format issue.

(Barney now inaudible). Try to send out thru Ward Office newsletters. Camila: Send link of newsletter to Ward offices to include in their newsletter and thru Economic Dev website and personal businesses websites.

Shelly: need some way to make business community understand that this commission exists.

Discussion was held, no action taken.

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9. Establishing Nominating Committee for Chair / Vice Chair / Secretary – Marion Hook

Marion: Patti is willing to move to Chair position. Committee to meet in public and accessible.

Commission has no by-laws, members can be appointed.

Volunteers: Rebecca Safford and Ronnie Reyna. Discussion held, no action taken.

10. Economic Initiative Office Update – Camila Bekat

Incentive packages: Home Goods, has chosen Tucson.

Since 2012, COT Economic Initiatives office along with TREO, has helped with the creation of over 1900 jobs since July 2012. Projects assisted have brought in 283 million dollars in capital investment to COT. Out of the 1900 jobs that were created, over 400 make over \$52,400.

Small business assistance line is busy. Southeast industrial land, needs water and wastewater infrastructure, working on this with COT water and PC wastewater to develop a plan to make these sites shovel ready.

Inaudible discussion.

Camila: Main St. Meeting, March 2, Child and Family Resources, 2800 E. Broadway 5:30 – 7pm and Tuesday March 3, same location, 8 – 9:30am.

Gem Show was hugely successful. Discussion held, no action taken.

11. Pima County Small Business Commission Update – Ken Goodman

Meeting held Thursday, Feb 19, presentation by Ellen Curtain she is the new director of what was the MAC (micro-business advisement center) now is under SBDC. New organization forming to help businesses with financing and organization. JTED (Joint Technical Education) Foundation is new, to help financing for education. Discussion was held, no action taken.

12. Commission Member Update – Marion Hook

Patty: Mayor to assist with vacant seats in the Wards. Spoke regarding Broadway Corridor to keep it moving. Pods downtown, trying to get this resolved, many legal issues.

Jason: Ward 2 hosting TDOT 101 on March 11 re: Houghton/Kolb/Sabino Road extension at 5:30, 7575 E. Speedway. No other updates. . Discussion was held, no action taken.

13. Future Agenda Items

1. Update on survey and way to distribute
2. Ward 6, public meeting regarding problems in Tucson
3. TCC updates

Discussion was held, no action taken.

14. Call to the Audience

None

15. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:36 PM. Marion Hook – 2nd Ronnie Reyna.

**SMWBC Minutes: 02/26/2015
Approved: 03/26/2015**

NOTE: It is the intent of these meeting minutes to get to the general meaning of the discussion, summarize what happened, and record official actions. The minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcription of all that was said.