



MINORITY & WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (MWBE) COMMISSION

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the MWBE Commission was called to order by Walter Soto, Chairperson, on Thursday, August 21, 2008, at 5:34 p.m., in the Office of Equal Opportunity Programs (OEOP) and Independent Police Review (IPR) Conference Room, 100 North Stone Avenue, Suite 109, Tucson, Arizona.

1. Check-in/Roll Call

Members Present:

Noell Rodriguez
Andee Leisner
Vacancy
Walter Soto
Clarence Boykins

Appointed by:

Ward 1
Ward 2
Ward 4
Ward 5
Ward 6

Members Absent:

Marlene Ashton
Deborah Muñoz-Chacon

Appointed by:

Mayor
Ward 3

Others Present:

Liana Perez, Director, OEOP and IPR
Robert Barton, Senior Equal Opportunity Specialist, OEOP and IPR
Kathy Killion, Senior Equal Opportunity Specialist, OEOP and IPR
Michelle Flanagan, Administrative Assistant, OEOP and IPR
Martha Durkin, Chief Deputy City Attorney, City Attorney's Office
Dennis McLaughlin, Principle City Attorney, City Attorney's Office

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Boykins and seconded by Commissioner Leisner to approve the minutes of July 17, 2008, passed by a vote of 4 to 0.

3. Proposition 104 – Discussion/Action

Mr. Dennis McLaughlin addressed the Commission stating he spoke with the Secretary of State who advised Proposition 104 failed. They stated the proposition needed 230,000 signatures and it only received approximately 194,000 ballot signatures.

Commissioner Soto requested Item 3 be added to the next regularly scheduled MWBE Commission meeting should a reversal of the failed Proposition occur.

4. Disparity Study Update – Liana Perez

Prior to the August 21, 2008 MWBE Commission meeting, the Commissioners were given a draft copy of the Disparity Study provided by D. Wilson, consultants for the study.

Commissioner Soto suggested the Commission review a few items of concern and then address the consultants at a special meeting agreed amongst the Commissioners to be held on August 27, 2008.

Ms. Perez stated she spoke with Mr. Michael Letcher, Deputy City Manager, who stated the Commission should receive the draft report prior to Mayor and Council. Ms. Perez delivered the report to the Economic and Workforce Development Subcommittee chaired by Council Members Leal, Romero and Scott.

Ms. Perez proceeded with an overview of the draft. She advised that although the study was a joint solicitation with Pima County, the reports were individual including variations with policies and data based on City/County projects. The County was planning on addressing their findings with their Board of Supervisors on September 16, 2008.

Ms. Perez stated the consultants were provided with various types of data. The Construction files, including subcontracting information, was provided by OEOP. The A&E and Goods and Services files were provided by Department of Procurement. The consultants were also given the ordinance pertaining to the MWBE Program as well as applicable State statutes. The consultants interviewed both OEOP and Procurement Department staff. They also administered community forums and conducted a telephone survey.

Ms. Kathy Killion addressed a concern regarding the dollars related to Construction projects. Ms. Killion advised that the reports the Commission reviews have figures which were not included in the draft. These figures included federally-funded HUD contracts and contracts awarded to prime contractors located outside of Pima County. Ms. Killion said the Change Order figures, which are not seen by OEOP, were added in with the contract dollar amounts.

Discussion followed. No action was taken.

5. Call to the Audience

No one spoke.

6. Future Agenda Items

- Arizona Civil Rights Initiative and its effects on the City's and County's ability to do business with M/WBE Firms
- Monthly Contract and Purchase Order Reports from Procurement Department
- M/WBE Construction Reports
- City of Tucson's Outreach to M/WBE Primes
- Disparity Study Update

7. Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Boykins and seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez to adjourn, passed by a vote of 4 to 0.

Next Meeting: August 27, 2008