

OFFICE OF EQUAL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, January 18, 2023
Minutes

Members Present:

Javin Walker, Chair
Alan Gerwig
Juan Pagan
Doris Pastel
Bob Schafer

Staff Present:

Tonya Davis Johnson, Director
Allen Gray, Manager
Anthony Gregory, SBDS II
Angela Smith, SBDS III
Antonia Smith, Public Info. and Outreach Coordinator
Angie Whitaker, SBDS II

Members Virtual:

Denise Albritton
Seabron Smith
Carole Hart

Guest:

Members Absent: Lorna Anderson, Amy Angelo, Kati Cassiani, John Elliott, Clementine Fleuranvil,
Courtney Newell, Robert Lesko,

Vacant Seats: None.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 8:38 a.m. by Chairman, Javin Walker.

A. Roll Call

Roll called by Megan Harp. Quorum present.

B. Adoption of Agenda for January 18, 2023 Meeting

Motion by Juan Pagan, seconded by Bob Schafer. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Approval of Minutes for November 16, 2022 Meeting

Motion by Juan Pagan, seconded by Doris Pastl. Motion passed unanimously.

II. COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATE

Tonya Davis Johnson reported that the committee is at full quorum.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. OEBO Outreach Activity Report

Antonia Smith discussed the past outreach/training events. Ms. Smith reported that OEBO has increased its participation with its partners. OEBO participated in the Solid Waste Authority's Powernet Event, and collaborated with the Peach Umbrella Network. In addition, she facilitated OEBO Certification Workshops at the Village of Palm Springs Library.

Ms. Smith reported that in December OEBO hosted a networking event with the Purchasing Department and are working closely with them. She provided the committee with the upcoming outreach events.

B. Small Business Certification Status Report

Anthony Gregory presented the Certification Report and discussed the different class indicators.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Recertification Sub-Committee Update

Sub-committee Chair Doris Pastl reported that calls were made. Ms. Pastl also stated that she is awaiting a new list.

Tonya Davis Johnson stated that a new list will be given to the sub-committee.

Carole Hart requested a list to be provided to her to assist the sub-committee in contacting the vendors.

B. Committee Retreat

Tonya Davis Johnson reported that the Advisory Committee Retreat will take place on Saturday, January 21, 2023, beginning at 8:15 am at the Green Cay Nature Center. A reminder and the agenda will be sent out to the committee members prior to the retreat.

V. COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Seabron Smith thanked the committee and the staff for a wonderful job.

Carole Hart stated that she is excited and looking forward to attending more events this year.

Bob Schafer stated that contractors are expressing that the recertification process would be easier if they can update information that has change versus having to input all information. Another comment from vendors questioned if the threshold will be raised due to the escalation in prices for materials and supplies?

Tonya Davis Johnson stated to Mr. Schafer that the recertification process is a simplified process and asked that the vendors be referred to the Office of Equal Business Opportunity for assistance. The County is working to increase the threshold for emerging businesses as well as smaller businesses.

Juan Pagan spoke about the Fiesta De Pueblo and stated that the idea is to create awareness about the population in the county. Mr. Pagan stated that the next event for the Hispanic Chamber is January 25, 2023.

Doris Pastl stated that she would like to see more people physically at the meeting and that she is looking forward to the retreat.

Chairman Walker asked the committee to review the outreach event schedule that was provided to identify events that the members plan to attend and wished the committee a Happy New Year.

VI. DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Tonya Davis Johnson thanked the committee for attending the 1st meeting of the year and is excited about the program year that has been planned. The office is moving forward in a new relationship with the Purchasing Department and are currently participating in joint meetings with County Departments to talk about the importance of inclusion and participation on all county contracts. She is looking forward to increasing the number of businesses becoming certified with the County.

Ms. Davis Johnson thanked Juan Pagan and the Hispanic Chamber for inviting the Office of Equal Business Opportunity to the Fiesta de Pueblo and stated that the event was wonderfully attended.

VII. COUNTY ATTORNEY'S COMMENTS

None

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.