



Broward County Small Business Development Advisory Board (SBDAB)

Location: In accordance with Executive Order 20-193, this meeting was held virtually via Zoom:
<https://zoom.us/j/97407876904?pwd=ang2OGFEcWpvZXlwaDdoUy9oSfd0QT09>

Meeting ID: 974 0787 6904

Password: 6400

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting Minutes

Date and Time: Wednesday, July 8, 2020, 2020, 3:05 p.m.

SBDAB Members

Attendance

Dana Pollitt	Present
Chelsa Arscott	Present
Darren Badore	Present
Dahlia Baker	Present
Dena Lowell Blauschild	Present
Stephen Botek	Present
Victor Green	Present
Jean McIntyre	Absent
Martin "Marty" Sherwood	Present
Shaheewa Jarrett	Present
Charles Michelson	Present

County Staff:

Sandy-Michael McDonald, Director, OESBD
Maribel Feliciano, Assistant Director, OESBD
Susan Smith, Small Business Specialist, OESBD
Savika Junor, Community Relations and Outreach Specialist-Surtax, OESBD
Sandy Steed, Assistant County Attorney

Members of the Public:

Joseph E. Hovencak, Executive Director, Six Pillars Broward
Tracy Vertus, Program Officer, Prosperity Broward
Luciano Todeschini, Manager, Six Pillars Broward

I. Call to Order/Roll Call/Introduction

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Dana Pollitt at 3:00 p.m. with a quorum present.

II. Approval of Minutes

Motion: Member Botek moved to approve the minutes from March 11, 2020. Vice Chair Baker second.
The motion passed unanimously.

III. Adoption of Agenda

Motion: Vice Chair Baker moved to accept the proposed agenda for July 8, 2020. Member Michelson second. **The motion passed unanimously.**

IV. Invited Guest: Tracy Vertus, Program Officer-Prosperity Broward, Joseph E. Hovencak, Executive Director- Six Pillars Broward and Luciano Todeschini, Manager-Six Pillars Broward informed the SBDAB that the Greater Ft. Lauderdale Alliance operates the Six Pillars Broward program which emphasizes community growth. One of the Pillars, Prosperity Broward Program, morphed from the results of a J.P. Morgan report which identified several zip codes with higher than average unemployment than the average in Broward County. The report identified gaps and issues where the Greater Ft. Lauderdale Alliance could focus its efforts and form partnerships to help small businesses grow as well as promote increase employee hiring with all businesses located within the identified zip codes. Version 2.0 of the Six Pillars Broward will focus on expanding its pool of partnerships and business coaches. In addition, a 90-day “buy local” collaborative economic stimulus plan for Broward County businesses will be launched.

V. Comments: Member of the Public

None

VI. Staff Updates

- OESBD Assistant Director, Maribel Feliciano, informed the SBDAB that the Construction Apprenticeship Program was adopted by the Commission on June 2, 2020. Staff is currently developing operational procedures to become effective approximately 60-90 days after the “Stay-at-Home” Order has been lifted.
- Ms. Feliciano reiterated that SBDAB members have been e-mailed copies of flyers of all upcoming community outreach events.
- Mr. McDonald and staff continue to provide workshops and technical assistance training to help small business navigate through and apply for available state and federal funding. Many of these workshops have been recorded and are available on You Tube for viewing on demand.
- There are currently ninety-seven (97) surtax-funded projects that have been approved by the commission, some of which have begun construction. Mr. McDonald and staff have been hosting virtual workshops with municipalities. These workshops provide information on how to connect with and better use OESBD as a resource and to share the benefits and opportunities that are available to the small businesses, from surtax-funded projects, in their communities.
Member Sherwood asked staff to share updated status of surtax-funded projects, to include status of applications submitted and number of applications approved. He also asked that OESBD contact Joe Napoli from Cooper City. Mr. Napoli would like to assist with social media efforts and requests an OESBD representative to attend the City’s next Advisory Board meeting. Mr. McDonald explained that all municipalities have been asked to contact OESBD at any time, and staff will be available to provide any assistance that is requested; he will follow up immediately with Mr. Napoli.

VII. New Business

A. 2020 Meeting Schedule

Member Michelson moved to approve to change the current meeting schedule from September 9th and November 11th to September 23, 2020 and November 4, 2020, respectively.
Member Badore second. **The motion passed unanimously.**

B. Small Business Incentives and Procurement Recommendations

The Chair asked members to submit any additional suggestions of items they would like staff to include in discussions with representatives from Purchasing, Administration, and the Auditor regarding incentives the County may consider as added opportunities for small business participation in Broward County’s procurement process. In addition, members were asked to share

their personal challenges they may have been experiencing while operating as a small business (i.e. capacity issues); Susan will compile these suggestions and redistribute them to the members.

C. Discussion: Business Opportunity Act of 2012

Mr. McDonald told the SBDAB that the County expects to “clean up” areas of the Act that have been identified as possible amendments. He asked members to submit any suggestions or concerns they would like to have addressed during the discussions, when held, to modify the Act.

VIII. Old Business

None

IX. Future Agenda Items

- 1) Small Business Incentives and Procurement Recommendations

X. Next Meeting

The next SBDAB meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 23, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Disclosure: The above captioned minutes are transcribed in a summary format. To obtain a complete audio recording of the meeting, approved summary minutes, or any presentation or handout materials, please submit a public records request to Susan Smith, Small Business Development Specialist, who can be reached at svsmtih@broward.org or 954-357-6400.