



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSION

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Hilda L. Solis
Mark Ridley-Thomas
Sheila Kuehl
Janice Hahn
Kathryn Barger

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 8, 2020
10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Meeting Held Via Teleconference

Item 1: Call to Order: Chair Doi called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

Item 2: Roll Call and Confirmation of Quorum: Roll call was taken, and the quorum requirement was met.

Present

- 1st District:** Rose Acosta-Yonai, Andrew Rodriguez, Kerry Doi
- 2nd District:** Angela Gibson, Mark Robertson, Will Campbell, Ky Chueon Kim
- 3rd District:** Lisa Miller, Todd Flora, Amy Ablakat
- 4th District:** Ann Carpenter, Anna Wu, Cindy Allen
- 5th District:** Anthony Williams, Tyrone Hampton

Absent

- 1st District:** Diane Araujo
- 2nd District:** Steven Temple,
- 3rd District:** Sharon Brown, Christine Hershey
- 4th District:** Lucia Moreno-Linares, Patrick Wilson
- 5th District:** Frieda Hovsepian, Josef Essavi, Onnik Mehrabian

Staff

Joseph Nicchitta, Rafael Carbajal, Joel Ayala, Azusena Favela, Christian Olmos, Fernando Nieto, Sayuj Panicker, David Diaz, Francisco Mendez

Public None

Item 3: Approval of Small Business Commission (SBC) Minutes

Commissioner Miller moved to approve the minutes of the SBC meeting for April 8, 2020. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Carpenter. Motion was passed unanimously.

Item 4: Department of Consumer and Business Affairs (DCBA) COVID-19 Efforts and Responses

Joseph Nicchitta, Director of DCBA, shared information about the Board appointed Economic Resiliency Task Force, which is in charge of developing recommendations to the Board about the best ways to reopen the County. The SBC was among the participants in the Task Force. Information on the ProsperLA website, aimed at improving the procurement process for Los Angeles County, was also shared. Director Nicchitta also requested that the SBC consider two resolutions, one to request additional loan dollars to support small businesses impacted by COVID-19, and the other, to consider supporting a centralized outreach effort so that small businesses can better find the resources and assistance they may need. Azusena Favela, Deputy Director of Economic Development, and Christian Olmos, Programs Chief, provided updates on the Disaster Help Center and on currently available relief loan funds. After the information was presented, Commissioner Robertson moved to pass a resolution, with delegated authority to the Commission Chair, that would recommend to the Board of Supervisors to consider additional grant dollars, with balance and equity, as appropriated from Federal CARES Act dollars, to be

awarded to Los Angeles County small businesses, and to move the resolution forward to DCBA staff who will assist with the drafting. Commissioner Flora seconded the motion. After the motion was seconded, a roll call vote was initiated, the motion was passed, and voting results were as follows:

Kerry Doi – Yes
Andrew Rodriguez – Yes
Rose Acosta-Yonai – Yes
Angela Gibson – Yes
Mark Robertson - Yes
William Campbell- Yes
Ky Chueon Kim- Yes
Lisa Miller - Yes
Todd Flora – Yes
Amy Ablakat – Yes
Anna Wu – Yes
Ann Carpenter – Yes
Anthony William – Yes
Tyrone Hampton – Yes
Cindy Allen - Yes

A second motion was initiated by Commissioner Robertson that recommends a single marketing effort with centralized information on all available services from the County of Los Angeles to assist small businesses, and that the County becomes a repository for all small business services supported through funding. Commissioner Flora seconded the motion. After the motion was seconded, a roll call vote was initiated, the motion was passed, and voting results were as follows:

Kerry Doi – Yes
Andrew Rodriguez – Not Present for Vote
Rose Acosta-Yonai – Yes
Angela Gibson – Yes
Mark Robertson - Yes
William Campbell- Yes
Ky Chueon Kim- Yes
Lisa Miller – Not Present for Vote
Todd Flora – Yes
Amy Ablakat – Yes
Anna Wu – Yes
Ann Carpenter – Yes
Anthony William – Yes
Tyrone Hampton – Yes
Cindy Allen - Yes

Item 5: Office of Small Business (OSB) – Small Business Utilization (SBU)

Fernando Nieto, Consumer and Business Affairs Representative III, provided information on the SBU goals for 2020 and shared an overall review on the SBU goals for the previous 4 years. Information and statistics on certifications and counseling was also shared.

Item 6: SBC Committee Updates

Commissioner Williams stated that the Procurement and Reciprocity Committee should receive updates on the Simplified Acquisition Process. Commissioner Robertson stated that the Economic Development and Outreach Committee received a presentation from the Department of Regional Planning on the Alternative Financial Services Ordinance.

Item 8: Office of Small Business Update

The OSB update was provided in Agenda item 4.

Item 9: Future Agenda Items

- Descendants of American Slaves
- Information on how the SBU program is supported County-wide
- Update on recovery funding

Item 10: Public Comment

There were no members of the public present to provide a public comment.

Item 11: Adjournment

Commissioner Robertson moved to adjourn the Small Business Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hampton. Meeting was adjourned at 11:47 a.m.