

EQUAL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

October 3, 2017

AGENDA ITEM

DISCUSSION

ACTION

	<p>Nathaniel Alston called the meeting to order.</p>	<p>Meeting called to order at 9:02 a.m.</p>
<p>Minutes: June 06, 2017</p>	<p>Nathaniel Alston called for approval of the Minutes. Roger Barnes moved that the Minutes be approved; the motion was seconded by Nancy Briguglio.</p>	<p>Unanimously approved</p>
<p>Certifications: June 06, 2017 through October 3, 2017</p>	<p>Nancy Briguglio moved that the applications be approved; the motion was seconded by Roger Barnes.</p>	<p>Unanimously approved</p>
<p>Certifications not on slate (under review for eligibility)</p>	<p>Mahesh went over the additional information pertaining to determine eligibility for certification for KCW Engineering Technologies, Inc. He shared the background involving initial concerns by Roger Barnes while undergoing his review and the following steps taken further on. He shared the findings from his contact with MDOT and the legal review and findings done by Constance Tucker. Roger Barnes and Constance Tucker also shared their findings. The findings resulted in the Commission provided information for denial.</p> <p>Nathaniel Alston called for a vote for denial. Steven Joss moved that the certification be denied; the motion was seconded by Roger Barnes. The Commissioners unanimously agreed to the denial.</p>	<p>Unanimously decision to proceed with Denial</p>
<p>CR-181-2016 EBOC Report & County Council Monthly Meeting - October 10</p>	<p>Mahesh shared a copy of the CR-181-2016 EBOC Report which was also previously emailed to the EBOC members.</p> <p>Mahesh shared information on an email from Jessica Feldmark, Administrator, Howard County Council, which was also previously emailed to the EBOC members, stating that the Council would like to invite the EBOC Commissioners to attend its monthly meeting at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 10, to discuss their findings and recommendations.</p> <p>Nathaniel Alston, Nancy Briguglio and Steven Joss mentioned that they would attend. Some Commissioners mentioned that they would let Mahesh know if they were able to attend. Mahesh will share information on the location and exact timings.</p>	

<p>EBO Manual Draft Changes</p>	<p>Mahesh shared a copy of the EBO Manual Draft Changes which was also previously emailed to the EBOC commissioners on August 10, 2017.</p> <p>Mahesh went over the summary of proposed changes to the EBO Manual. Nancy Briguglio mentioned that these all were good and positive changes. Roger Barnes concurred.</p> <p>There were no further comments or concerns from any of the commissioners.</p>	
<p>Columbia Downtown Development Small Business Training Proposal</p>	<p>Nathaniel Alston and Roger Barnes shared information about a proposed training proposal which they have discussed with The Howard Hughes Corporation. The proposal will include training on the following topics: Estimating and Pricing, Accounting and Back Office Operation, Risk Management (Bonding & Insurance).</p> <p>Constance mentioned that the procedure would be to first discuss the proposal at the EBOC meeting for discussion of all Commissioners. She added that the County is supportive of the proposal, but wanted some clarifications.</p> <p>Constance asked if this proposal was only related to the TIF portion of Columbia Downtown Development. Mr. Alston mentioned that it would include the TIF portion of the Columbia Downtown Development as well as any work not related to the TIF portion. Constance asked if this training would be limited to only Howard County located EBO firms. Mr. Alston mentioned that this would include any firms certified in the EBO program irrespective of their location.</p> <p>Roger Barnes mentioned that he has been hearing from The Howard Hughes Corporation that there has been a low interest level from EBO firms. The excuse been given to The Howard Hughes Corporation from General Contractors is that we cannot find qualified EBO firms, to be considered for work, as the firms lack knowledge in estimating and pricing. Mr. Barnes feels that EBO firms will be better prepared after undergoing such training.</p> <p>Mr. Alston added that whatever the procedure or correct channels might be, he feels that ultimately important is the outcome. Such a training proposal will be beneficial to all parties, to include the EBO firms, the County, Howard Hughes etc.</p> <p>Constance stated that she would like the EBOC to take a vote in recommendation to submit the proposal to the County Executive. Roger Barnes recommended that a proposal be submitted to the County Executive, the motion was seconded by Steven Joss.</p>	

Adjournment of Meeting at 9:48 am	Motion to adjourn by Nathaniel Alston. Next regular EBOC Meeting scheduled for December 05, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.	
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EBOC MEMBER ATTENDEES:

1. Nathaniel Alston
2. Steven Joss
3. Nancy Briguglio (conference call)
4. Tajuddin Sabree (conference call)
5. Margaret Kim (conference call)
6. Roger Barnes (conference call)
7. Shahan Rizvi (conference call)

ABSENT:

1. Matthew Lee
2. Jason Peay

NON-MEMBER ATTENDEES:

1. Dean Hof
2. Mahesh Sabnani
3. Constance Tucker