



**Economic and Workforce Development  
Selection Committee (EWDSC)  
Wednesday, January 12, 2022  
Microsoft Teams Meeting  
Tucson, AZ**

**Legal Action Report / Minutes (not approved)**

**1. Call to Order / Roll Call**

Meeting called to order by Barbra Coffee at 11:03 a.m. Those present and absent were:

Present:

Barbra Coffee: Representative, City Manager's Office (Chairperson)  
David Godlewski: Representative, City Manager's Office  
Elaine Becherer: Representative, Mayor's Office  
Stephanie Healy: Representative, Ward 3  
Ben Buehler-Garcia: Representative, Ward 6  
Amanda Bruno: Member of City Manager's Office (not part of quorum)  
Irene Messina: Member of City Manager's Office (not part of quorum)

Not Present:

Benjamin Galaz: Representative, Ward 1  
Andrea Leisner: Representative, Ward 2  
Bobby Verenna: Representative, Ward 4  
Akanni Oyegbola: Representative, Ward 5

Quorum established.

**2. Approval of September 23, 2021 meeting minutes**

Elaine Becherer put forth a motion to approve the minutes. David Godlewski seconded the motion. Motion passed, all in favor.

**3. FY23-24 RFP Review**

Amanda Bruno viewed the Request for Proposals application and highlighted a couple of additions. She indicated there will be an information session on February 10 at 4 p.m.

Barbra Coffee said there is a total of \$750,000 for the grant cycle, with \$150,000 extra through ARPA funding. She proposed a general information session for the pre-proposal meeting so a quorum is not necessary.

Stephanie Healy and David Godlewski agreed with this idea.

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Stephanie Healy asked if Barbra wanted a Commission member to attend with staff. Barbra Coffee affirmed.

Stephanie Healy nominated Ben Buehler-Garcia as the Commission member. Ben Buehler-Garcia said he is happy to play that role if his calendar permits. Stephanie Healy said she is happy to help if her schedule permits.

Barbra Coffee asked Amanda to send out a meeting invite. Amanda Bruno agreed and said it would be a hybrid meeting.

Elaine Becherer asked if anyone from the public was on the call. Barbra Coffee indicated there were seven attendees and no members of the public.

Barbra Coffee said a press release will be coming out promoting the call for proposals, along with social media and testimonial statements on our website.

Ben Buehler-Garcia asked if Hispanic media was on the distribution list. Barbra Coffee asked if there was a Spanish language radio connection. Irene Messina replied that Fernando Molina assists with that.

Barbra Coffee announced new additions to the EI team: Narda Flores as a program manager for small businesses, Frankie Villegas from the YWCA, and Alma Peralta to focus on relationships with Mexico and other international business and trade opportunities.

Elaine Becherer asked that the date of the information be included on the press release. Barbra Coffee agreed.

Barbra Coffee indicated the applications will be PDF fillable.

Ben Buehler-Garcia discussed a situation in the community where people cannot afford the housing they would like due to insufficient income. He talked to Liz Morales about an idea of establishing a training program for individuals who are in the City's housing voucher program. He said there may be an organization to fund that has shown a good track record of workforce training. Barbra Coffee said it's plausible that an organization could create a program and submit it.

Barbra Coffee said she would like to entertain a motion to approve the application for workforce economic development and special events programs. Stephanie Healy put forth the motion. David Godlewski seconded the motion. Motion passed, all in favor.

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**4. Call to the Audience**

No members of the public were present.

**5. Future Meetings and Agenda Items**

Barbra Coffee indicated some Doodle polls will be sent out for meetings in late April / early May. David Godlewski agreed.

**6. Adjournment**

Barbra Coffee entertained a motion to adjourn. David Godlewski put forth the motion. Ben Buehler-Garcia seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 11:38 a.m.