



**Economic and Workforce Development
Selection Committee (EWDSC)
Thursday, May 26, 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 1:39 p.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
Andrea Leisner: Representative, Ward 2
Bobby Verenna: Representative, Ward 4
Akanni Oyegbola: Representative, Ward 5
Ben Buehler-Garcia: Representative, Ward 6
Amanda Bruno: Member of City Manager's Office (not part of quorum)
Mike Czechowski: 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
Stephanie Healy: Representative, Ward 3

Quorum established.

2. Approval of May 4, 2022 meeting minutes

Bobby Verenna put forth a motion to approve the minutes. Andrea Leisner seconded the motion. Motion passed, all in favor.

3. Committee Review and Scoring of Proposals

A. Special Events

Akanni Ogebola and Bobby Verenna had conflicts of interest (ATO Management: South Tucson Street Festival and Perimeter Bicycling Association's El Tour de Tucson, respectively) and recused themselves from voting on the Special Events proposals.

Fourteen proposals were submitted by community organizations for special events, with requests for funding totaling \$497,000.

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Committee members discussed the proposals, agreeing to:

1. Fund events that produce the most economic impact
2. Preserve cultural events
3. Be mindful of those events not ready for “prime time”
4. Consider parallel funding that they are receiving
5. Consider if the amount requested would “make or break” the event

David Godlewski put forth a motion to remove the Arizona Tech Council from funding consideration, and fund organizations at either \$5000 or \$10,000.

The committee wanted more discussion on the amounts for each organization, so David Godlewski withdrew his motion.

After discussion, the committee agreed to the following event funding allocations, totaling \$140,000:

Cihuapactli Collective: Ancestral Womb Wellness Gathering: \$5000

Perimeter Bicycling: El Tour de Tucson: \$10000

Living Streets Alliance: Cyclovia: \$10000

Dusk Charities: Dusk Music Festival: \$15000

Tucson Botanical Garden: LightsUp!: \$10,000

Higher Ground a Resource Center: Restart S.M.A.R.T.: \$5000

ATO Management: South Tucson Street Festival: \$5000

Tucson Audubon Society: Southeast AZ Birding Festival: \$10000

Tucson Kitchen Musicians Association: Folk Festival: \$15000

Jazz in January: Tucson Jazz Festival: \$15000

Tucson City of Gastronomy: Pueblos del Maiz Fiesta: \$10000

Southwest Folklife Alliance: Tucson Meet Yourself: \$15000

Tucson Rodeo Parade Committee: Rodeo Parade: \$15000

David Godlewski put forth a motion to approve the funding allocations above. Andrea Leisner seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

3. Committee Review and Scoring of Proposals

B. Economic and Workforce Development

Akanni Oyegbola and Bobby Verenna re-joined the meeting. Elaine Becherer left the meeting, recusing herself from voting due to a conflict of interest.

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Discussion ensued on how to fund 15 proposals, with the committee recommending funding as follows:

Small Business Development:

Community Investment Corporation: BIPOC Community Managed Loan Fund: \$35,000

Growth Partners AZ: Kiva Tucson Hub: \$20,000

StartUp Tucson: Startup Fundamentals: \$55,000

YWCA: Womens' Business Center: \$45,000

Workforce Development:

Job Training for Adults:

YWCA Tucson: YWorks: \$70,000

Literacy Connects: \$30,000

Job Training for Youth:

Center for the Future of Arizona: Cycle Breaker: \$50,000

Goodwill: Youth Metro-REC: \$50,000

Tucson Clean and Beautiful: \$5,000

San Miguel High School: Work Study Program: \$15,000

Long-Term Job Training for Adults:

JobPath: \$200,000

Pascua Yaqui Development Corporation: Constructions Trade Apprentice Program: \$35,000

Total for Economic and Workforce Development: \$610,000

Ben Buehler-Garcia put forth a motion to approve the funding allocation above. Bobby Verenna seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.

The committee discussed several improvements for the next round of applications/funding:

- To update the application and specific questions
- To update the scoring process

4. Call to the Audience

No audience members were present.

5. Future Meeting and Agenda Items

The next meeting will be held at the end of August. No specific date was chosen.

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6. Adjournment

Andrea Leisner put forth a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bobby Verenna seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 4:04 p.m.