

**Business Enterprise Program Council for Minorities,
Females and Persons with Disabilities Meeting Notes**

MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

100 W. Randolph
Room 2-025
Chicago, IL 60601

401 S. Spring St.
Room 500 ½
Springfield, IL 62706

Monday, May 23, 2016- 1:30 PM

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Larry Ivory, Bobbie Wanzo, Beth Doria (Ph), Jesse Martinez, Hedy Ratner (Ph), Sharla Roberts, Cate Costa, Charisse Witherspoon, Kim McCullough

COUNCIL MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Karen Eng, Samantha Hufnagel, Sheila Hill Morgan, Emilia DiMenco, Susan Shaw, Denise Barreto, Edward McKinnie

COUNCIL CHAIR

Kimberly E. McCullough-Starks, Chairman

COUNCIL SECRETARY

None

CMS STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Elias Ricks Ngwayah II, Irma Lopez, Harry Reinhard, Carlos Gutierrez, Jeanetta Cardine, Ben Jones; Michael Hoffman

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Ben Bagby, Gustavo Giraldo, Dale Morrison, Vincent Gilbert, Geno Marchizza, Mic Williams

**PUBLIC NOTICE
STATE OF ILLINOIS**

***Business Enterprise Council for Minorities, Females, and Persons with
Disabilities***

100 W. Randolph
Room 2-025
Chicago, IL 60601

401 S. Spring St.
Room 500 1/2
Springfield, IL 62706

AGENDA

May 23,, 2016

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

- I. Welcome
- II. Call to Order
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Approval of Minutes of Council Meetings held on February 22, 2016 and April 25, 2016
- V. Chair's Report
- VI. Posted Business
- VII. Committee Updates
 - Marketing and Community Engagement Committee
 - Business Strategic and Growth Committee
 - Advocacy and Public Policy Committee
 - Certification Committee
 - Policy and Compliance Committee
 - Executive Committee
- VIII. Old Business
- IX. New Business
- X. Public/Vendor's Testimony
- XI. Adjournment
 - Next Council Mtg. – June 27, 2016

Please note: In case you need to connect to the meeting via teleconference, please use the following number and access code:

Teleconference Number 888-494-4032
Access Number 2587213722

I. Welcome

Chair Kim McCullough welcomes all.

II. Call to Order

Chair McCullough called the meeting to order at 1:34pm and proceeded with roll call.

III. Roll Call

Roll call conducted. Quorum was not established.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes was postponed due to the lack of quorum.

V. Chair's Report

Chair McCullough said that she had nothing to report on today.

VI. Posted Business

None

VII. Committee Updates

a. Marketing and Community Engagement Committee

Member Wanzo said the group met on May 10, 2016 and the primary focus of the meeting was to review the existing goals and outcomes. They also review outreach activities that BEP had been doing. She said they felt it was important to have some council members at some of these outreach events to talk about the goals of the committees and the council as well. Lastly, they discussed social media interaction for the whole council.

b. Business Strategy and Growth Committee

No Report

c. Advocacy and Public Policy Committee

No Report

d. Certification Committee

Member Roberts said the certification committee met on April 25, 2016 and made a decision on a company that was previously denied based on absentee ownership. Council members present were: Sharla Roberts, Beth Doria, Jesse Martinez, and Edward McKinnie. Members decided to overturn the decision and certify the

company. She stated that they had noticed that there might be a fundamental problem regarding the issue of absentee ownership which needs to be reviewed. She said during their meetings, they have observed a problem with the certification team denying certification based on absentee ownership and it being overturned by the certification committee. She said they recommended a site visit be conducted for these situations.

Chair McCullough announced the arrival of member Karen Eng and Acting Director Michael Hoffman.

Member Witherspoon told the council that organizations like the Cosmopolitan Chamber of Commerce and other Business Development Council always encourage business owners to make sure you have some traction before you quit your job.

e. Policy and Compliance Committee

No Report

f. Executive Committee

Chair McCullough told the council that the Committee has not met since their last meeting in April. She further said the council received the committee report at the April 25, 2016 meeting.

VIII. Old Business

Member Roberts reminded the council that in the last meeting she had requested that the committees' update be submitted in advance to the Council members so that they can go over it before the meeting. She also recommended that all old business matters should be listed on the agenda ahead of the meeting. Member Ivory seconded what member Roberts had said.

IX. New Business

Member Ivory asked that the CMS monthly report be provided electronically to the members instead of being in the form of hard copy. He was told that it is in fact being sent to members electronically.

Member Roberts asked that the email notices be sent earlier than it has in recent times because she meets with Higher Education, the Universities, and Community Colleges on Thursdays but she has been receiving the email notices on Fridays. Therefore, she does not have the time to discuss anything relating to the agenda at her meetings.

Member Roberts requested an update on the certification tracking system and wants to know whether there is going to be training for staff related to its implementation.

Chair McCullough said currently we are in the process of working on some interface challenge with that module and our new Bid-Buy System. She said we were anticipating a roll out on June 1st but now it has been pushed back to July 2016. Regarding the compliance monitoring system, she further commented that the new Do-It organization which was previously BCCS, is in the process of talking to the Tollway about buying a system that is statewide.

Member Roberts wants to know whether the Sell2Illinois link will be kept. Chair McCullough said yes it will be kept.

Member Ivory stated that there are lots of important procurement policies that are being through the legislature in Springfield and he was wondering whether the Policy and Compliance Committee was aware of them.

Chair McCullough said she is not part of this committee and would not answer on their behalf. Notwithstanding, she said in terms of procurement legislative activities in Springfield, there are a number of bills that do different things. She stated that at the last meeting there was a request to provide pending legislations. She promised to provide them.

Director Hoffman told the Council that it is a rapidly changing environment to the point that as late as Friday a new version of the bill was introduced in the Senate. He further said there were other bills that were being pushed by different independent Chief Procurement Officer. He talked about a bill that was introduced by the Illinois Chamber of Commerce. Lastly he said he would have a member of the legislative team give the council a briefing.

Chair McCullough said in response to the Council request to have the Director of the Department of Corrections come before the Council, she had reached out to Acting Director Baldwin and Acting Assistant Director Taylor and asked them to appear before the council but because they were scheduled for confirmation hearing before the legislature, they could not be here. They are willing to meet with the Council but wants confirmed first. She promised to get back to the council regarding what date is convenient for them.

Member Wanzo said one of the things that she shared with her committee which she believes the council should know is that the employment and economic Opportunity for Disability Task Force is making recommendations to the Governor's Office either June or July. She also said some of the recommendations affect the Council. She told the Council that the document

which involves Sheltered workshop has been sent to Ignacio Cuevas for distribution to the Council.

Member Roberts said she had on several occasions asked for the report on Sheltered Workshops to be sent to her but to date she has not yet received it.

Chair McCullough inquired what report member Roberts was talking about. Member Roberts said it was a report Paul Cerpa had mentioned regarding not putting goals on Sheltered Workshops. She does not believe there is a competition between PBEs and Sheltered workshops. According to her, they are distinct. Member Roberts recommended that we see who we have certified as PBEs and increase their utilization.

Chair McCullough responded that this is a report that is going to the Governor's office and that Member Roberts will have an input. She further said that the other report was a combined effort across state agencies and that they provided a legislative briefing to a panel of legislature that were interested in this issue. She believes they looked at national best practices and compare that to how we are operating in the State of Illinois. She stated that the fundamental issue that they brought forth was the individuals that were employed by the non-for-profits organization in terms of economic impact to them individually as entrepreneurs is much different than it would be for Persons with Disabilities who is a business owner.

Member Doria informed the Council that they had a bill HB4370 before the General assembly this year where we basically wrote the legislation as hospital, both public and private will now be required to report on their diversity spend and hold workshops to try and engage BEP vendors. She said the bill was passed and on Friday it was sent back to the House for concurrence on a technical purpose. According to member Doria, another bill requiring casinos and race tracks to report on their diversity spend was discovered with a technical flaw and they are filing an amendment to cement that flaw.

Chair McCullough said they had met with Rep. Davis on HB4370 about the possibility of implementing the intent of that bill. She also said they will be working with the Illinois Hospital Association on this bill.

Counsel Jones said in terms of the Gaming Board Bill, he and Paul Cerpa met with the Chair of the Gaming Board. They had some questions about the implementation of that bill. They are moving forward with the bill and we will be working with them on its implementation.

Member Roberts wants to know if HB4370 is focus around construction or everything. Chair McCullough said it was predominantly construction.

Member Costa talked about strategy to encourage members to come to meetings so we can have a quorum and vote on things. Chair McCullough reminded the Council that she had met with each of them individually and that they all have committed themselves to attend these meetings.

Member Costa wants to know whether people are allowed to send representative instead of being present. Chair McCullough said members have to be present physically.

Member Ivory reminded the Chair about the time when she was making the personal phone calls to each member, we had a quorum.

Member Roberts asked whether it is possible to have the Governor make those that are on the Council by statutes be present.

X. Public/Vendor's Testimony

None

XI. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 2:22pm.