



**MBE/WBE and Small Business Advisory Committee
Minutes**

**Regular Meeting
Tuesday September 7, 2010**

The MBE/WBE and Small Business Advisory Committee convened in a regular meeting on Tuesday, September 7, 2010 at 301 W. 2nd Street Room 1029 in Austin, Texas.

Chair Adrian Neely called the Board Meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Adrian Neely, Barbra Boeta, Anne Harutunian, Brian Walters, Andrew Ramirez

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the August 3, 2010 regular meeting were approved on a 4-0-1 vote from a motion by Mr. Ramirez, seconded by Mr. Walters with Barbra Boeta abstaining.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Carol Hadnot, Austin Area Black Contractors Association thanked SMBR for the increased professionalism of their staff.

3. PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing regarding the proposed MBE/WBE Procurement Program Ordinance amendments.

Veronica Briseño Lara, Director – SMBR presented a redline version of the proposed ordinance changes to the committee.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Alayne Johnson, Austin Area Black Contractors Association, asked how SMBR will assess minimum good faith efforts.

Carol Hadnot, Austin Area Black Contractors Association, said in order for good faith efforts to be enforced, vendors' contact information needed to be accurate. She recommended that staff work to ensure the certified vendors' contact information is correct.

The committee suggested SMBR staff brainstorm on ways to improve the process of updating vendor information. The committee believes it would be unfair to hold general contractors accountable when the information they are provided is not accurate. The committee also suggested comparing information with the trade association's databases.

Ms. Johnson said that SMBR should require vendors to update their contact information during the re-certification process.

Felix Batchassi, IT Solutions, suggested an option for updating the vendor information is for SMBR to send a blast email for everyone to verify their contact information and make any necessary changes through the appropriate channels.

4. OLD BUSINESS

For discussion and possible action on recommendations to City Council (2-1-163(B))

Discussion regarding the Austin Energy Weatherization Program work session

Ms. Lara said that the special called meeting will be held on Thursday, September 9, 2010 at 2:00 in the Boards and Commissions Room 1101 at City Hall.

6. STAFF REPORTS

Monthly report for the Small & Minority Business Resources (SMBR) Department on request for changes and council awards.

Veronica Briseño Lara, Director – SMBR presented the committee with the reports.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Carol Hadnot, Austin Area Black Contractors Association said that she is pleased to see that for the past four months there has been increased African American participation.

7. AGENDA ITEMS

- Action regarding proposed ordinance changes
- Action on creating a subcommittee within the Advisory Committee
- Presentation/Discussion from SMBR regarding recommendations on improving the vendor contact information
- Update on the AE weatherization program
- Review Advisory Committee action plan (pending timeline, possibly for November agenda)

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned 6:45 p.m. on a motion by Ms. Boeta, seconded by Mr. Ramirez.