



**SMALL BUSINESS ADVISORY BOARD (SBAB)
MEETING MINUTES**

November 15, 2019
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
BioLabs Towne Centre 9620 Towne Centre Dr.
Ste. 100, San Diego, CA 92121

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT	BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT
Michelle Gray – Board Chair Shane Beard – Board Vice Chair Catherine Arambula Edward Barbat Tristan Barnum Ruben Garcia Viviane Windmiller	Justin Fortier Gary Peterson

CITY STAFF
Sean Karafin– Neighborhood Investment Manager Jocelyn Maggard – Business Development Specialist Alissa Gabriel – Business Development Specialist

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Michelle Gray, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM. Board members, City staff, and members of the public were asked to introduce themselves.

2. Public Comment:

No public comment was given.

3. Approval of Minutes:

Upon a motion from Ruben Garcia, and a second from Shane Beard, the Board approved the minutes with no changes from the June 21, 2019 meeting. Yes: Catherine Arambula, Edward Barbat, Shane Beard, Tristan Barnum, Ruben Garcia, and Michelle Gray Viviane Windmiller; No: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Justin Fortier, Gary Peterson.

4. Administrative Items:

- A. Board Administrative Items and/or Non-Agenda Comments:** None
- B. Requests of Agenda Revisions (continuances, changes in order, etc.):** None
- C. Development Services Department Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Report:** Barbat

gave an update the previous Technical Advisory Committee had been canceled.

- D. Economic Development Department Liaison Report:** Maggard provided board with updates on Economic Development Department small business programs including the recent business walk in Linda Vista and the Storefront Improvement Program.

5. Action Item(s)/Discussion:

Board provided feedback on possible changes to the SBAB section of the Municipal Code §26.06. Gray requested a meeting be scheduled for the Chair and Vice Chair to address municipal code changes and develop a board workplan for 2020.

6. Information Item(s)/Discussion

- A. **Life Science and small business:** The San Diego region is home to more than 1,225 life sciences companies that innovate life-saving devices, develop pharmaceutical advancements and pioneer genomic research. With a \$33 billion economic-impact, businesses of all sizes can benefit from the life sciences cluster. Speakers include:
- a. Becky Beattie, Director of Programs & Marketing, LaunchBio: Beattie provided an overview of the programs and networking opportunities LaunchBio offers small life science businesses
 - b. Dawn Verdugo, Co-Founder and CEO, yuFlu: Verdugo introduced her business and product that provides a testing mechanism to determine if a patient has the flu or a different respiratory illness. Verdugo also provided feedback on the challenges to starting a life science business in San Diego, which included access to funding
 - c. David Webb, Former CEO and Chairman of the Board, Agragene: Webb, accompanied by Agragene Chief Business Officer, Clyde Shores, introduced the concept behind their startup life science company that modifies the insect genome to improve crops and prevent vector borne diseases.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Beard adjourned the meeting at 10:48 a.m. The Small Business Advisory Board was not scheduled to meet in December 2019.