1. Welcome & Call to Order:

Dr. Ruben Garcia, Small Business Advisory Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:16 a.m.

2. Public Comment:

Julie Hoang, Program Coordinator with Founders First Capital Partners, LLC, stated that her organization offered programs that focused on accelerating small business growth. They focus on underrepresented, underserved markets and help them gain capital. At the completion of the organization's programs, they provide an event in which participants can pitch their business to potential investors.

Isaac Ramirez, Business Development Officer with Accion, talked about his organization and how they offer loans to small business owners, providing alternate financing that a bank may not be able to provide. He highlighted a program hosted by his organization that consisted of four (4) workshops focused on accelerating business growth, followed by an event during which participants pitch their re-worked business to a panel.
3. **Welcome Remarks:**

Kevin Ko, a representative from Convoy District Partnership, greeted the board, thanked the City for its partnership with Convoy District, and welcomed everyone to the area.

4. **SBAB on the Road: Achieving Success in San Diego’s Food and Beverage Industry:**

A panel was held so that attendees could learn and discuss strategies with experts for achieving success in the food and beverage industry. Speakers included representatives from the Brown Law Group, California Restaurant Association, City of San Diego Development Services Department, Food & Beverage Association of San Diego, San Diego Brewer’s Guild, and Snake Oil Cocktail Company.

Speakers were given three (3) minutes to introduce themselves.

The panel was then opened for questions and discussion.

5. **Approval of Minutes:**

Due to a lack of quorum, the approval of the minutes from the Sept. 15, 2017, Oct. 20, 2017, Nov. 17, 2017, and Jan. 19, 2018 meetings were tabled until the March 23, 2018 meeting.

6. **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):** None

D. **Economic Development Department- Liaison Report:** None

7. **SBAB 2018 Meeting Schedule**

No action was taken this agenda item.

8. **Adjournment**

The SBAB meeting was adjourned by Dr. Ruben Garcia at 10:23 a.m. The next meeting will be held on Friday, March 23, 2018 at 9:00 A.M. at the Central Library, Mary Hollis Clark Conference Room, located at 330 Park Blvd., San Diego, CA 92101.