



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

June 21, 2019  
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.  
San Diego Central Library  
330 Park Blvd., San Diego, CA 92121

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

<b>CITY STAFF</b>
Elizabeth Studebaker – Neighborhood Investment Manager Norma Medina – Business Development Officer Jocelyn Maggard – Business Development Specialist

**1. Call to Order and Introductions**

Michelle Gray, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:05 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 May 17, 2019 meeting. Yes: Edward Barbat, Shane Beard, Justin Fortier, Ruben Garcia, Michelle Gray, and Gary Peterson; No: None; Abstain: Catherine Arambula. Absent: Tristan Barnum and Viviane Windmiller.

**4. Administrative Items:**

**A. Board Administrative Items and/or Non-Agenda Comments:** Studebaker notified the board that the Economic Development Department will be instituting an alternative work schedule allowing staff to have off every other Friday and noted that there will always be staff coverage

for SBAB meetings. Studebaker also reminded the board that they received via email a copy of the Office of Boards and Commissions Tactical plan for the board to review.

**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:** Studebaker and Maggard provided a summary of the Convoy District business walk that took place on June 13, 2019. Studebaker provided an overview of the placemaking program and the recent item at the Coastal Commission regarding placemaking in the Coastal Zone. Studebaker also reminded attendees that the City was finishing up budget season. Medina provided a summary of the Reinvestment Task Force, which included discussion on access to capital and regulatory relief modifications for microenterprise food businesses.

#### 5. Action Item(s)/Discussion:

None.

#### 6. Information Item(s)/Discussion

**A. Defense Economy in San Diego:** The military and defense economies have played a critical role in the development of San Diego's economy and its small business community. From launching companies such as Qualcomm to supporting contractors throughout the region, its impact only continues to grow. Guest speakers included the following individuals:

- **Mark Balmert**, Executive Director, San Diego Military Advisory Council (SDMAC): presented the latest SDMAC economic study providing an overview of the military's impact on the regional economy and gave a summary of the work that SDMAC does as an advocate on behalf of the military and its economic impact.
- **Meredith Dibden Brown**, Community Development Coordinator, City of San Diego: presented Propel San Diego, a grant awarded to the City of San Diego by the U.S. Department of Defense's Office of Economic Adjustment to increase the strength and resilience of defense firms operating in San Diego County. Brown addressed that the funding for the grant will end and answered questions about how the program can be sustained using other resources or local grants.
- **John Engstrom**, Business Opportunity Specialist, U.S. Small Business Administration: discussed his role working on the federal government HUBZone program that assists business in historically underutilized business zones to receive federal contracts.

#### 7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Beard adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m. The Small Business Advisory Board will be dark in July.