Minutes of the TEMPE VETERANS COMMISSION held on Tuesday, May 2, 6:00 p.m., at the Tempe, Public Library 2nd Floor Board Room, 3500 S. Rural Road, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:
Keith Finkle, Chair
Michelle Bravo, Vice-Chair
Mario Aguirre
Scott Essex
Troy Friedman
Lauren Hyre
Patricia Little-Upah
Michelle Loposky
Laura Skotnicki

(MEMBERS) Absent:
Bryan Durham
David Lucier

City Staff Present:
Valerie Kime Trujillo, Human Services Deputy Director
Robin Arredondo-Savage, Vice-Mayor
Kolby Granville, Councilmember

Guests Present:
James Pipper, U.S Small Business Administration
Eric Snelz, Helping Hands for Freedom

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order
Chair Keith Finkle called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

Agenda Item 2 – Public Appearances

None present

Agenda Item 3 – Review and Approval of March 7, 2017 Minutes (Motion Required)

MOTION: Vice-Chair Michelle Bravo moved to APPROVE the minutes.
SECOND: Motion seconded
DECISION: Minutes unanimously APPROVED
Agenda Item 4 – Helping Hands for Freedom (HHFF) Presentation

Eric Snelz, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director of Helping Hands for Freedom gave an overview of the Helping Hands website (https://www.helpinghandsforfreedom.org). HHFF is dedicated to supporting military children and families facing injury, loss and deployment and aims to improve children's lives through compassion, honor, mentorship and leadership programs. Mr. Snelz is seeking the Commission’s assistance in connecting Veterans and families to his organization. Families/individuals in need of financial services can complete an application online. Any Commission member's interested in connecting with HHFF can contact Mr. Snelz at esnelz@helpinghandsforfreedom.org.

Agenda Item 5 – Small Business Administration (SBA) Veterans Programs Presentation (attachment included)

James Pipper, Lead Economic Development Specialist gave an overview of the SBA. The SBA offers programs (training and mentorship) and services to veteran entrepreneurs and military spouses.

Agenda Item 6 – Update on Military Businesses – Commission Member Mario Aguirre

Commission Member Mario Aguirre will provide an updated list of the new employers who have completed navigation training at the June 6, 2017 meeting. The Commission discussed recognizing newly certified applicants semi-annually at City Council Meetings and recruiting Veterans owned Businesses and Veteran Friendly employers to complete the navigation training via the water bill. Vice-Mayor Arredondo-Savage reported the City is conducting a business survey and suggested adding a question regarding Veterans businesses.

Agenda Item 7 – Review of Strategic Plan

The Commission will review the Strategic Plan for one month and discuss at the June 6, 2017 meeting. Chair Keith Finkle would like Commission Members to spearhead two projects and bring ideas to the June meeting.

Agenda Item 8 – Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at

Future Agenda Items:
- Review and Approval of Strategic Plan
- Review and Approval of Implementation Plan
- Commission Member Projects Discussion

Next meeting will be on Tuesday, June 6, 2017

Minutes Prepared by: Melissa Placencia
Reviewed by: Valerie Kime Trujillo
U.S. Small Business Administration Loan Clinic

Learn about SBA's lending role and how to prepare a request for capital. Come to this FREE monthly clinic to understand credit requirements, interest rates, collateral terms, and amounts available. Learn how to approach a lender, find bankers interested in your needs and improve your chances of success.

REGISTRATION IS NOT REQUIRED.

WHEN:   First Wednesday of every month
TIME:   9:00am to 11:00am
WHERE: U.S. Small Business Administration, Arizona District Office
2828 North Central Ave., Suite 800 Phoenix, AZ 85004
PARKING: Garage is credit/debit only, no cash accepted. We do not validate. (510 max) The system is automated.

You can choose to participate remotely by logging into AT&T Web Conference to view event slides during the event. Here are the steps:
2. Audio is over the phone. CALL 888-858-2144, access code 2776866

NEED MORE INFO? Call 602-745-7200 or email Arizona@sba.gov

All SBA programs or co-sponsored programs are extended to the public on a non-discriminatory basis. Reasonable arrangements for persons with disabilities will be made if requested in advance. Contact SBA at 602-745-7200
Selling to the Federal Government

Presented by the U.S. Small Business Administration

Learn how to sell your goods/services to the Federal Government. This seminar teaches small businesses about federal government contracting programs for small business. Seminar will include discussion about government contracting, 8(a) certification, Hubzone program information and more!

WHEN: 1st Wednesday of the month
TIME: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
LOCATION: 2828 North Central Avenue, Suite 800 Phoenix, AZ 85004
AGENDA: 1:00pm-2:15 pm  SBA Presentation
2:30pm-4:00pm  Guest Speaker TBD
PARKING: Garage is an automated system that accepts Credit/Debit card only, no cash. We do not validate. Daily max fee is $10.

REGISTRATION: Please be advised that there is limited seating in the training center. RSVP by visiting www.eventbrite.com and searching for local SBA events.

You can choose to participate remotely by logging into AT&T Web Conference. To view event slides during the event log on to https://connect16.uc.att.com/sba/meet/?ExEventID=88417445

1. Meeting Number: 8888582144
2. Access Code: 8417445
3. Audio is over the phone. CALL 888-858-2144, access code 8417445

If you need assistance call 602-745-7200 or email Arizona@sba.gov

For privacy during remote attendance, please use "guest" as your first/last name, otherwise your real name is viewable to the audience.

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SBA Resource Partners

Women’s Business Center (“WBC”) - 640 North First Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85003 – 602-223-4329. The Arizona Women’s Education and Entrepreneur Center (AWEEc) is the only Women’s Business Center (WBC) in Maricopa County and it provides business owners guidance such as training, counseling, online programs, mentoring and support networks to develop improved strategies that aid in the growth and sustainability of their businesses.

SCORE Association -- 2828 North Central Avenue, Suite 800 -- Phoenix, Arizona 85004 -- 602-745-7250 -- SCORE is a volunteer organization of business people helping small business people solve business problems. Volunteers give freely of their time, energy and knowledge to help others. Contact them at www.greaterphoenix.score.org

Arizona Small Business Development Center Network -- Maricopa Community Colleges Small Business Development Center, Gateway Community College, 108 N 40th Street, South Building (SO), Phoenix, Arizona 85034 -- 480-784-0590 -- The AZSBDC Network is here to help launch, grow and sustain small businesses in Arizona. AZSBDC is Arizona’s largest most comprehensive and accessible statewide source of assistance for small businesses in every stage of development.

Arizona Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTAC) -- Arizona PTAC – Headquarters | Glendale Community College, 6000 W. Olive Avenue, Glendale, Arizona 85302 -- 623-845-4703 -AZPTAC Procurement Specialists work with small business owners to help them realize the opportunities that exist in the realm of government contracting and procurement. AZPTAC is here to help businesses seeking federal, state and local contracting opportunities.

AZ Veterans Business Outreach Center (VBOC) – VBOC’s, working with SBA resource partners, target entrepreneurial training projects and counseling sessions tailored specifically to address the needs and concerns of both uniformed personnel, veterans and spouses. Website: www.cochise.edu/VBOC 520-515-5478
U.S. Small Business Administration -- Arizona District Office

2828 North Central Avenue, Suite 800 -- Phoenix, Arizona 85004

Office Hours: 8:00am - 4:30pm – Monday to Friday -- 602-745-7200


SBA’s Arizona District Office is responsible for the delivery of SBA’s many programs and services throughout the Arizona. Services available include:

Free counseling, advice and information on starting a business through SCORE.

Financial assistance for new or existing businesses through guaranteed loans made by area bank and non-bank lenders.

Free consulting services through the network of Small Business Development Centers. SBDCs also conduct training events throughout the district - some require a nominal registration fee.

Assistance to businesses owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals through the Minority Enterprise Development Program.

Women's Business Ownership Representatives are available to advise women business owners.

Special loan programs are available for businesses involved in International Trade.

Specialized Guaranteed loans are available for credit-worthy veterans.

SBA Workshops

- On May 3, the Arizona district office will conduct a Loan Clinic, at the district office in Phoenix. The program is designed to provide entrepreneurs with information on SBA’s loan programs and other services such as SCORE and SBDC counseling assistance. Call 602-745-7200 to register.

- Also on May 3, the Arizona district office will conduct a workshop on government contracting programs. This program outlines the requirements to participate in all of the current contracting programs and will also feature a contracting office from another (city, state, federal) entity who will address their current and/or upcoming contracting opportunities. Call 602-745-7200 to register.

- On May 5, the recently announced 11 state, 15 stop Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs road tour, will visit Phoenix. The event will have participation from 11 other federal agencies. www.SBIRROADTOUR.CO
2017 Veteran Resource Seminars
For Arizona Veteran Entrepreneurs

U.S. Small Business Administration

DATE: TUESDAY MAY 16, 2017, 9:00 AM TO 11:00 AM. PLEASE ARRIVE PROMPTLY.
TIME: 9:00 AM TO 11:00 AM. PLEASE ARRIVE PROMPTLY.
LOCATION: SBA TRAINING CENTER, 2828 NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE, SUITE 800, PHOENIX, AZ 85004. PHONE (602) 745-7200.

WE ARE LOCATED AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THOMAS AND CENTRAL. NON-VALIDATED PARKING IS AVAILABLE IN THE BUILDING GARAGE. GARAGE ACCEPTS CREDIT/DEBIT, NO CASH. MAX. $10/DAY. THERE IS NO CHARGE TO ATTEND THIS EVENT OTHER THAN PARKING EXPENSE.

Why You Should Attend:
Learn about special veteran services and programs available from the U.S. Small Business Administration:
• Starting Your Business – Business Development Plan
• Financing Your Business
• SBA Loan Clinics – Special two hour training classes held the first Wednesday of every month to explain the SBA loan process, eligibility and which lenders are making loans
• Growing Your Business – Funding for Expansion
• Contracting Opportunities – Service Disabled & Veteran Owned Businesses
• Counseling – Veteran Business Development Officer, SCORE, SBDC, Women’s Business Centers and Veterans Business Outreach Center

REGISTRATION LINKS:
MAY 16, 2017: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2017-may-veterans-
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2017-aug-veterans-

All of SBA’s programs and services are provided to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis.