



Charlotte Business INclusion Advisory Committee
Wednesday, May 10, 2023
10:00 –11:30 a.m.
Meeting Summary and Action Items

I. Attendance: Vernetta Mitchell, Alex Bui, Sharon Walters, Kymberlyn (Kym) Gardner, Rebecca LaClaire, Valerie Del, Pacino Mancillas, Stephanie Hand, Jason Deans, Rochelle Stewart, Joaquin Soria, Harrison Williams, Camisha Farris, Gary Beal, Jerome Marez Staff: NaTasha Smith, Steven Coker, Kimberly Tibbs, Michele Torres, Sonia Bows, Claire Butler, and Nyema Mathis.

II. Welcome: Chairman Mitchell welcomed everyone and called for a motion to approve the April 12, 2023, meeting minutes. Alex made the motion and Joaquin Soria seconded it; thereafter, Chairman Mitchell collected each committee member's vote to accept the meeting minutes.

Chairman Mitchell welcomed Jerome Marez, At-Large Professional Services representative, to the committee. Jerome immediately proceeded to introduce himself providing the committee with a high-level background overview on himself.

III. CBI Staff Update: Steven Coker gave a brief update on the CBI Annual Report and the new Charlotte Business Inclusion Policy and Procedures manuals. Steven gave an estimated timeline for the completion on the CBI Policy and Procedures manual approvals and stakeholders trainings which will start in June. Steven spoke about the Bonding Program and the Bonding Program Kickoff event in June. Steven indicated that CBI has selected a firm to conduct the economic impact analysis which will determine the impact of CBI dollars in the community. Steven introduced Michele Torres, the new Business Inclusion Manager. Michelle Torres gave an overview of the tasks and projects she is currently working on. Steven informed the committee that City Council approved a new seat to CBIAC, The Carolinas LGBT+ Chamber of Commerce.

IV. New Business: Each subcommittee discussed its goals and objectives.

- **Measured Sustainability:** Kym Gardner, gave an update about the Mentor Protégé Program and Survey
- **Outreach & Engagement:** Jason Deans, gave an update about the how they plan to engage firms and focus on increasing certified firms
- **Accountability:** Sharon Walters, gave an update on the committee's goals, reviewing past disparity studies to find areas that need to be addressed to help MWSBEs

Constituent, Judy Heleine, spoke to the committee about her experience and voiced concerns about WBE participation.

V. Plans for Next Meeting: June 14, 2023

Committee will discuss the benefits of the Bonding Program. Steven Coker will give an updated on the department meetings to engage them in CBIAC.

- VI. Adjournment:** There being no additional business, Chairman Mitchell called for a motion to adjourn. Stephanie Hand made the motion, and Valerie Del seconded it.
- VII.** The meeting adjourned at 11:23 a.m.

May 10, 2023, CBIAC Meeting Summary and Action Items submitted by:

NaTasha Smith 5/15/2023