

Equal Opportunity Review Commission

MINUTES

Wednesday, February 17, 2016

12:00 PM

City County Building

Sixth Floor City Stats Room 646

414 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Commissioners in Attendance: Erin Conley, Karen Hall, Barry Nathan, Freddie Croce, Joann Monroe, Jessica Bellas, Marvin Leibowitz, Tracey McCants-Lewis

Absent Commissioners: Justin Laing, Florence Rouzier, Ralph Bangs

Staff in Attendance: Anthony Mannella, Kevin Pugh, Ricardo Williams, Valerie McDonald-Roberts, Intern: Suzanne Gross, Intern: Nathaniel Kiger

I. Call to Order- Freddie Croce

II. 90 Day Participation Plan Review

- a) **OMB**—Facilities Optimization (No activity)

III. Recommendation from WBE Committee

1. WBE Initiative – Karen Hall, Jessica Bellas – Karen proposes that the commission adopts a rule that the authorities must report payments to WBEs and MBEs through invoices. Jessica recommends that the staff organizes this information electronically. Freddie wants to have compliance committee. Jessica and Karen official propose compliance tracking by staff. Conley: motion to approve, Monroe: second, **MOTION PASSED, PROJECT APPROVED**

IV. New Participation Plans to Review

1. **1602-01 – Parking Authority** – Chris Holt, **First Avenue Garage**. No questions or comments. Conley: Motion to approve, Hall: Second, **MOTION PASSED, PROJECT APPROVED**
2. **1602-02 – SEA** – Clarence Curry, **Design Services for the 4th Floor Terrace of Convention Center**, Curry argues that 1602-02 and 1602-03 are essentially the same project, so the lack in WBE participation in this project will be made up in the next proposal. Conley: Motion to approve, McCants-Lewis: Second, **MOTION PASSED, PROJECT APPROVED**
3. **1602-03 – SEA** – Clarence Curry, **Commissioning & Construction Inspection Services for the 4th Floor Terrace of Convention Center**, Barry calculates that the MBE and WBE participation rate across 1602-02 and 1602-03 is 27% and 25%, respectively. Freddie says that the commission does not usually combine the numbers. Bellas: Motion to approve, Conley: Second, **MOTION PASSED, PROJECT APPROVED**

4. **1602-04 – URA** – Valerie Waters, **Hillcrest Senior Residences**, proposal included costs which were ineligible for participation, making the MBE and WBE participation at 30% and 15% respectively. URA will make abide by these suggestions going forward. Discussion amongst commissioners about 84 Lumber's status as a business: not disadvantaged. Conley: Motion to approve, Leibowitz: Second, **MOTION PASSED, PROJECT APPROVED**
5. **1602-05 – URA** – Valerie Waters, **1601 Broadway Avenue**, Waters claims that the numbers will be improved when some of the businesses officially get certified. Conley: Motion to approve, Leibowitz: Second, **MOTION PASSED, PROJECT APPROVED**

V. Resubmittals

1. **1601-04 – PWSA** – George Robinson, **Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Project**, Numbers did not change, still 0/0, contract was awarded before Robinson was hired, PWSA is committed to his business because of their history. Bellas argues that there are many WBEs who are capable of working on the project, says PWSA did not put enough effort forward. Conley: Motion to approve, Croce: Second, Abstention: Nathan, Opposed: Bellas, Marvin, Hall, Monroe, McCants-Lewis; **MOTION FAILED, PROJECT REJECTED** Note: Freddie and Marvin leave after voting
2. **15012-03 – Parks and Recreation** – [representative name], **Response to RFP for web services development**, Originally submitted in December 2015. Main contractor is 25% women owned, cannot get certification. ****need more info from recording** Nathan: motion to approve, Tracey: second, **MOTION PASSED, PROJECT APPROVED**

VI. Chairman's Remarks (by Jessica)

1. Volunteers needed for WBE event on 3/24: Tracey, Florence, Erin (maybe), Joann, Barry (maybe) say they will participate.

VII. Manager's Minute

1. B2GNOW is live, will fully launch in June/July
2. ****Need more info from recording**

VIII. Adjournment – Jessica Bellas