

# **Governor's Supplier Diversity Council**

## **March 23, 2017 Meeting**

### **Minutes from March 23, 2017, Governor's Supplier Diversity Council Meeting** **Video Conferenced Meeting in DEDO offices in both Wilmington and Dover**

#### **Attendees:**

Present in Wilmington: Ken Anderson, Ron Frazier Esq., Devona Williams PhD., Theresa Brown Edwards Esq., Givvel Marrero, and Michelle Morin.

Present in Dover: Ralph Truitt, and Anas Ben Addi

Present on the phone (non-voting): Karen Davis Williams, Stephanie Young, and Brian Leahy

Absent: Nick Callazzo III, Dean Stotler, Jayshree Moorthy, and Sakthi A. Vel PhD,

Public Present in room in Wilmington: none.

Public Present in room in Dover: none

Public Present on the Phone: none identified

#### **Meeting Opened:**

Meeting Called to Order by Ken Anderson, GSDC Chair, at 1:41pm.

#### **Quorum:**

A quorum (currently requires 6 of 11 members) was reached at the meeting, with seven members present.

#### **Prior Meeting Minutes:**

Were not reviewed.

#### **March 23 Meeting Notes:**

- Chair Ken Anderson greeted everyone and shared that he expected Cerrone Cade, Director of DEDO to join us.

#### **Under Old Business,**

None.

#### **Under New Business,**

- Chair Ken Anderson shared that he is looking for direction from the new Administration in terms of GSDC Council. Ken shared information about Governor Carney's Transition Plan, which is publically available. Ken read sections to Council. Michelle Morin and Anas Ben Addi both raised that there are typos and inadvertent errors in the report, as some items for both offices, OSD and DSHA are in correct in the plan. Both shared that corrections were raised from their offices through appropriate chain of command to the Governor's office. Ken also mentioned Executive Order 1 that will change DEDO and the process of economic development in the state. It is unknown at this point in time,

what those full changes will be. There is some visibility in the transition plan that may shed light onto changes to come.

- Chari Ken Anderson asked Council to consider possible initiative to work on in calendar year 2017. He suggested that initiatives might change timeline and wait for a meeting with Governor Carney. Ken shared that he has requested a meeting with the Administration for this purpose.
- Anas Ben Adi shared that he was confirmed as the Director of the State Housing Authority. Council congratulated him. He further shared that are eight Downtown Development Districts (DDD) partnerships in the state now that his office is working on, including Seaford, Dover, Wilmington, Smyrna, Harrington, Georgetown, Milford and Laurel. Nans also announced that homelessness has been an important focus, and Delaware is the third state to receive federal designation from HUD and the VA to have ended Veteran homelessness. This means that Delaware is able to assist homeless Veterans into a shelter within 90 days of their loss of housing. Anas also shared that loss of housing is usually a symptom of other issues for needed assistance.
- Council members shared what their business organizations are currently experiencing at this point in the new federal administration and in the state.

**Public Question / Comment:**

- At 2:37pm Chair Ken Anderson opened the floor for public comment. There were not any members of the public in the meeting rooms. It is unknown if any members of the public were on the phone as none self-identified.

**Next Meeting:**

The next meeting is May 16, 2017 at 10am in Dover.

**Meeting Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned by Ken Anderson, GSDC Chair, at 2:39pm after motion by Devona Williams PhD. and seconded by Givvel Marrero.