

# **Governor's Supplier Diversity Council**

## **September 18, 2015 Meeting**

### **Minutes from September 18, 2015, Governor's Supplier Diversity Council Meeting**

**Video Conferenced Meeting in DEDO offices in both Wilmington and Dover**

#### **Attendees:**

Present in Dover: Ken Anderson, Dean Stotler, Devona Williams PhD, Nick Callazzo III

Present in Wilmington: Theresa Brown Edwards Esq., Ron Frazier Esq., Givvel Marrero, and Michelle Morin (arrived at 2:29pm).

Present on the phone (non-voting): Sakthi A. Vel PhD, Carmen Herrera, Shirley Lerner, and Brian Leahy.

Absent: Cathy Imburgia, Anas Ben Addi, and Clay Hammond. Due to significant conference call dial in line difficulties it is possible that other attendees were unable to connect and were therefore absent from the meeting.

Public Present in room in Wilmington: none.

Public Present in room in Dover: none

Public Present on the Phone: none

#### **Meeting Opened:**

Meeting Called to Order by Ken Anderson, GSDC Chair, at 2:16pm.

#### **Quorum:**

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

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

The minutes from the April 21, 2015, June 16, 2015, and August 17, 2015, were reviewed, minor edits for typos offered. The minutes for both the April 21, 2015 and June 16, 2015, meetings were unanimously accepted after correction of typos, without abstention via motion by Nick Callazzo and seconded by Dr. Devona Williams. The minutes for the August 17, 2015 meeting were unanimously accepted after correction of typos, without abstention via motion by and Dean Stotler seconded by Nick Callazzo.

#### **September 18 Meeting Notes:**

- Chair Ken Anderson greeted everyone and asked for comments on the April, June, and August minutes. Minor typo comments received and the minutes were acted upon as a quorum was present.

- **Under Old Business**, Chair Ken Anderson called for an update on the 2015 GSDC Initiatives, requesting a current status and request for actions by Council where appropriate. The review and action was provided as follows:
  - Initiative 5 – *Explore feasibility of pursuing sustainability as it relates to the elements of Executive Order No. 44.* Dr. Devona Williams reported that EO 44 is sustainable and to further assist Council in its sustainability that the committee recommends the establishment of Bylaws for GSDC, therefore Dr. Williams moved:
    - **That the Committee shall bring forward Bylaws for Council review and action.** Seconded by Nick Callazzo. The motion carried unanimously.
  - Initiative 4 – *Identify national supplier diversity trends not currently addressed in Delaware in which the GSDC may have to research and make policy recommendations, if and when requested, to the Governor's Office.* Dean Stotler briefed the report from last meeting and offered three motions, which was followed by a fair amount of conversation and exploration on the merits for each action recommended from Committee. Dean Stotler moved:
    - **That Council recommends to Governor Markell that the State hold a Business Matchmaking Fair to support businesses, and that GSS be tasked with this activity.** Seconded by Theresa Brown Edwards, Esq. After discussion, the motion was read again and Chair called for the vote, the motion carried unanimously.
    - **That Council recommends to Governor Markell that OSD, on behalf of Governor Markell, submit a survey to all Delaware Chambers of Commerce to measure and report what their business members do with respect to diversity in their businesses.** Seconded by Dr. Devona Williams. After discussion, the motion was read again and Chair called for the vote, the motion carried unanimously.
    - That Council recommend to Governor Markell the inclusion of the LGBT owned business constituency in the OSD certified community. Seconded by Theresa Brown Edwards, Esq. After discussion and review of the various reasons and opinion inclusion and how to discuss this inclusion with the other members of the diversity community, including a review of the existing diversity community, Dean Stotler offered a modification to the motion, **That Council recommends to Governor Markell the consideration of adding the LGBT owned business constituency to the OSD certified community.** Chair called for the vote, the motion carried with one objection and no abstentions.
  - Initiative 3 – *Explore options for targeted outreach to the expanding Delaware certified community, such as small business resources, funding assistance, including DEDO business development support services and financial programs.* Nick Callazzo reported that the action is for this committee to meet again to explore options and carry this into the ongoing work of Council. He further expressed that some of the ideas from this initiative seem to be covered in other Initiatives as discussed at last Council meeting.

- Initiative 2 – *GSDC identify Delaware based organization's where we can increase our visibility, engagement, and communications to encourage their alignment with Executive Order No. 44 and overall GSDC mission.*  
*and*  
Initiative 1 – *Continue review of scope of the GSDC role including discerning best practices for similar Councils and learn their functions and roles.*  
were reviewed together by Ken Anderson reported that these initiatives are covered in Initiative 5 and a state wide vendor fair as brought forward in Initiative 4. The action for these two initiatives is to piggy back on those other initiatives and for Council to be part of those events and activities. Discussion followed regarding how GSDC will participate and be included similar to the Small Business Summit of November 2014.
- **Under New Business**, Nick Callazzo shared that he has received a brief from the law firm of Duane Morris regarding support of Veterans and the cutting of federal funds relative to Veterans. This is a Federal Court matter. Nick will explore the brief with Michelle Morin and will share information back to Council as appropriate.
- **Under New Business**, Dean Stotler shared that the state of Delaware launched the eMarketplace, which is one component of an overall project.
  - With this new launch buyers can search and find items on contracts including from OSD and SBF certified firms on contract.
  - Additionally items all have the opportunity for attributes to identify them in various categories such as Made in USA.
  - Dean shared that this is a very busy time with user management and agency enablement, he will have a road show to demo the eMarketplace, and training will occur with state employees and with vendors seeking inclusion.
  - The support of Council has added to the support for this eMarketplace initiative. Ken offered Congratulations and recalled the early conversations in 2009 and 2010 where the idea of this initiative were first raised.
  - Dean shared that the State of Delaware launch was 400% larger than any other launch enablement with this vendor and that this is good for the state.
  - Dean shared that there is a goal for the next phase to include sourcing and that the intention is to include 1 for 3, or 1 for X and that the next phase will include the onboarding of various vendors inclusive of OSD and SBF certified vendors,.
  - Dr. Devona Williams identified this as a great achievement and requested a demo for Council at the next meeting.

**Public Question / Comment:**

- There were not any other 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:**

October 14, 2015, from 2:00pm to 3:30pm at Delaware Economic Development Office (DEDO), Conference Room, Carvel Building, 820 N. French St, 10th floor Large Conference Room, New Castle County. If we can video conference the next meeting from both locations you will be informed.

**Meeting Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned by Ken Anderson, GSDC Chair, unanimously without abstention upon motion by Nick Callazzo and seconded by Theresa Brown Edwards, at 3:33pm.