**Minority Business Initiative Advisory Board**

***September Meeting Minutes***

**September 24, 2020**

1:00 am – 2:00 am

Remotely Held by Teams Meeting Software

Hartford CT, Connecticut

**Attendance**

* Board Members Present: Howard Hill, David Lehman, Doug McCrory, Roberta Hoskie, Avery Gaddis, Leticia Colon de Mejias, Pedro Soto, Fred McKinney
* Members Absent: George Mathanool
* Quorum: Yes
* DECD Staff Present: Toni Karnes, Glendowlyn Thames and Sheila Hummel

**Welcome and Introductions:**

Commissioner Lehman welcomed the group and opened the meeting at 1:05 PM

**Minutes:**

Commissioner Lehman asked for a motion to accept the June meeting minutes Avery Gaddis seconded. Motion passed and August minutes were accepted

**Financial Report:**

Sheila Hummel provided the Board with an update won the Board’s financial status and outline of existing programs. Dr. McKinney noted that the format of the report was somewhat confusing. After some discussion the Board asked that a more detailed report be issued monthly which outlined the amount approved but not expended to date.

Under Funding requests received, DECD staff provided an outline of current and future funding requests and noted that if all were approved the Boards funds would be over subscribed.

Toni Karnes noted that a number of MBI funded programs may well fit under DECD’s Workforce Development Unit. She suggested that the new Director of Workforce Development be invited to the October meeting to advise the group on it’s mandate and focus.

Discussion ensued which included the new NAACP sponsorship request for $25,000. Questions were raised as to how proposals for funding were solicited, how were funding amounts decided and how fund remaining funds were to be allocated. Avery Gaddis suggested that no funding decisions be made at this time. Sheila Hummel advised the Board that the BBA proposal was time sensitive and needed to be taken up at the October meeting. She advised the group that the BBA proposal would go out to the Board for their review and comment before the next meeting. After much discussion, DECD staff noted that the subject of funding review and process could be taken up at the strategic planning session to be held in November.

**Strategic Planning Session:**

Toni Karnes advised the group that a MBI Board strategic planning session was being planned for November. A place date and time would be provided to the Board at the next meeting. After some discussion it was also decided that DECD staff would identify a third party to facilitate the strategic planning meeting

**Other Business:**

None

**Adjourn:**

Commissioner Lehman asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting Doug McCrory seconded. Motion passed and meeting was adjourned at 2:12 PM.