**Minority Business Initiative Advisory Board**

***September Meeting Minutes***

**Thursday, September 16, 2021**

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Remotely Held by Teams Meeting Software

Hartford CT, Connecticut

**Attendance**

* Board Members Present: Howard Hill, Glendowlyn Thames, Leticia Colon de Mejias, Roberta Hoskie; George Mathanool, Avery Gaddis, Doug McCrory
* Members Absent: David Lehman, Pedro Soto
* Other Attendees : Andrew Dorney
* Quorum: Yes
* DECD Staff Present: Alvetta Spencer, Sheila Hummel and Ed Bona

**Welcome and Introductions:**

Deputy Commissioner Thames welcomed the group and opened the meeting at 1:04 PM

**Minutes:**

The Board voted on August minutes, minutes approved.

**Economic Development Summit Vote:**

After a discussion on the budget for the Economic Development Summit, the Board approved providing BBA with an additional $25K for the Summit to be held in spring of 2022. Total budget is $125,000.

**Connecticut’s Economic Action Plan Presentation:**

Deputy Commissioner Thames provided the Board with an overview of the Connecticut’s Economic Action Plan and the **New** Programs associated with the plan.

**Q&A/Discussion about Economic Action Plan new Initiatives**

The discussions centered on opportunities for Collaboration:

* Setting up an MBI sub-committee that provides input and feedback on initiatives focused on and geared toward impacting MBE’s.
* Engaging with providers to provide feedback on progress/impact.
* Advancing “New DECD” position focused on Minority Business Development and Ecosystem building.
* Engage with Community Investment Board to assist with directing funds in support of MBE’s.

**Financial Report**

Sheila Hummel presented the Financial Report for the MBI funding. The report was accepted.

**Other Business: NONE**

**Adjourn:**

Deputy Commissioner Thames asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed and meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM.