

Southern Dallas Task Force
Topic Team: Small Business
Meeting Minutes: 4-13-09

Meeting Attendants:

Attendant's Email Addresses:

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Meeting Agenda:

- I. Review of the March 19th Meeting Minutes
- II. Report on Task Force Steering Team Meeting (April 2nd)
- III. Presentation on City of Dallas New Markets Tax Credits Application
- IV. Review of Interim Committee Report
- V. Suggested Interim Committee Report Additions, Deletions, and Modifications
- VI. Discussion of Proposed Focus Group Meeting (April 30th)
- VII. Meeting Conclusion

I. Review of the March 19th Meeting Minutes: To begin the small business team meeting, the attendees reviewed the last team meeting minutes. Upon review, Jim Reid asked if there were any questions about the minutes or revisions that needed to be made to the minutes. No questions were asked and no revisions were requested.

II. Report on Task Force Steering Team Meeting: Jim Reid reported to the small business team on the results of the last task force steering team meeting. Jim stated that Councilman Atkins had requested some hard budget numbers from each of the task force teams. In addition Jim stated that the next task force steering team meeting was schedule for June 9th.

III. Presentation on City of Dallas News Markets Tax Credits Application: Jim Reid had requested that Lee McKinney, from the office of Economic Development, attend the small business team meeting and explain the new markets tax credits which are available, and their application process. However, Lee was unable to attend the team meeting.

IV. Review of Interim Committee Report: Prior to the small business team meeting, Jim Reid had distributed the interim committee report to the meeting attendees. Jim stated that the primary purpose of the current month's team meeting was to review the interim

report. Listed below are the general comments and decisions made pertaining to the report:

- Potential locations were discussed for a Hispanic themed market place (a Mercado).
- It was suggested that the team needed to prioritize its list of goals.
- It was suggested that the team should distribute the interim report to small businesses in Southern Dallas, and have them identify the top three ideas in the report (as a way to help prioritize the ideas in the report).
- It was suggested that the team should consider providing incentives for successful businesses to open second locations in Southern Dallas.
- It was suggested that the team should pursue the idea of having small businesses in Southern Dallas hire ex offenders or senior citizens at discounted rates to increase the number of employed individuals in the area.
- It was suggested that the team should try to gain access to the stimulus money attached to the green movement. Specifically, the team suggested that small businesses should be started in Southern Dallas which are focused on the green movement (the small business team decided to make this idea their third recommendation in the interim report).

V. Suggested Interim Committee Report Additions, Deletions, and Modifications: The small business team suggested that the comments outlined above be incorporated into the interim committee report. In addition, the team examined the goals Jim Reid proposed should be given to other committees. Upon review the small business team agreed with Jim's proposed goal shifts.

VI. Discussion of Proposed Focus Group Meeting (April 30th): Jim Reid stated that he has planned a second focus group meeting for April 30th. The purpose of the meeting is to provide the focus group attendees with the goals and strategies of the small business team. The same individuals from the first focus group meeting will be invited to attend the second meeting.

VII. Meeting Conclusion: Following the discussion of the second focus group meeting, the small business team meeting concluded.