



**SMALL BUSINESS ADVISORY BOARD (SBAB)  
MEETING MINUTES**

November 15, 2019  
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.  
BioLabs Towne Centre 9620 Towne Centre Dr.  
Ste. 100, San Diego, CA 92121

| BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT                                                                                                                                        | BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Michelle Gray – Board Chair<br>Shane Beard – Board Vice Chair<br>Catherine Arambula<br>Edward Barbat<br>Tristan Barnum<br>Ruben Garcia<br>Viviane Windmiller | Justin Fortier<br>Gary Peterson |

| CITY STAFF                                                                                                                                             |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sean Karafin– Neighborhood Investment Manager<br>Jocelyn Maggard – Business Development Specialist<br>Alissa Gabriel – Business Development Specialist |

**1. Call to Order and Introductions**

Michelle Gray, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM. Board members, City staff, and members of the public were asked to introduce themselves.

**2. Public Comment:**

No public comment was given.

**3. Approval of Minutes:**

Upon a motion from Ruben Garcia, and a second from Shane Beard, the Board approved the minutes with no changes from the June 21, 2019 meeting. Yes: Catherine Arambula, Edward Barbat, Shane Beard, Tristan Barnum, Ruben Garcia, and Michelle Gray Viviane Windmiller; No: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Justin Fortier, Gary Peterson.

**4. Administrative Items:**

- A. Board Administrative Items and/or Non-Agenda Comments:** None
- B. Requests of Agenda Revisions (continuances, changes in order, etc.):** None
- C. Development Services Department Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Report:** Barbat

gave an update the previous Technical Advisory Committee had been canceled.

- D. Economic Development Department Liaison Report:** Maggard provided board with updates on Economic Development Department small business programs including the recent business walk in Linda Vista and the Storefront Improvement Program.

#### **5. Action Item(s)/Discussion:**

Board provided feedback on possible changes to the SBAB section of the Municipal Code §26.06. Gray requested a meeting be scheduled for the Chair and Vice Chair to address municipal code changes and develop a board workplan for 2020.

#### **6. Information Item(s)/Discussion**

- A. Life Science and small business:** The San Diego region is home to more than 1,225 life sciences companies that innovate life-saving devices, develop pharmaceutical advancements and pioneer genomic research. With a \$33 billion economic-impact, businesses of all sizes can benefit from the life sciences cluster. Speakers include:
- a. Becky Beattie, Director of Programs & Marketing, LaunchBio: Beattie provided an overview of the programs and networking opportunities LaunchBio offers small life science businesses
  - b. Dawn Verdugo, Co-Founder and CEO, yuFlu: Verdugo introduced her business and product that provides a testing mechanism to determine if a patient has the flu or a different respiratory illness. Verdugo also provided feedback on the challenges to starting a life science business in San Diego, which included access to funding
  - c. David Webb, Former CEO and Chairman of the Board, Agragene: Webb, accompanied by Agragene Chief Business Officer, Clyde Shores, introduced the concept behind their startup life science company that modifies the insect genome to improve crops and prevent vector borne diseases.

#### **7. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by Beard adjourned the meeting at 10:48 a.m. The Small Business Advisory Board was not scheduled to meet in December 2019.