



COOK COUNTY COMMISSION ON SOCIAL INNOVATION

October 19, 2017
4PM
118 N. Clark, RM 569

Minutes

I. Chair Welcome/Call to Order

- a. Present: Chair Jesus Garcia, Vice-Chair Marc Lane, Commissioners Reggie Greenwood, John Yonan, Mike Jasso, Valerie Leonard Sue Garza, Wendy Ramer, Victor Dickson, Maria Kim, David Doig, Pam Rodriguez, Harold Rice, Emile Cambry, Marc Loveless.

II. Approval of the minutes

- a. Motion to approve the minutes was made by David Doig, seconded by Wendy Ramer. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Metra Electric II

- a. 3a. Reggie Greenwood provided a brief overview of the Metra Electric resolution.
- b. 3b. Motion to approve the Metra Electric II resolution was made by Reggie Greenwood, seconded by John Yonan. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Approval of end of year report

- a. Motion to approve the end of year report was made by Pam Rodriguez, seconded by Victor Dickson. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Discussion

Social Enterprise Ordinance

1. Chair Garcia provided a brief overview of the ordinance and reported that the ordinance had passed the full body of the Cook County Board of Commissioners. The Ordinance provides for procurement incentives for Illinois benefit corporations, Illinois low-profit limited liability companies and social enterprises.

2. Vice-Chair Marc Lane thanked the Cook County Procurement director Shannon Andrews for her support and assistance in passing the ordinance. Chair Garcia thanked Cook County Compliance Director Jackie Gomez for providing support and assistance in passing the ordinance.
3. Wendy Ramer asked how many businesses/organizations would be able to take advantage of the new incentive. Co-Chair Lane responded that those metrics could be requested from the Procurement office.
4. Maria Kim asked how organizations get involved and become aware of the incentive. Co-chair Lane responded that the Commission is planning an official event with notifications to inform the broader community of the incentive.

Ownership Conversion Forum Discussion

1. Vice Chair Lane provided a summary of the event that was held on Oct. 4 at BMO Harris and hosted by Wendy Ramer. Over 100 in attendance
2. Victor Dickson provided details of the event that was focused on manufacturing and working with retiring small business owners with 100 employees or less, 25 million or less in revenue, keeping them successful. Further work will be done with UIC Great cities institute to study and identify these businesses.
3. Chair Garcia was pleased with attendance and diversity of attendees.

Futures of Work Conference Discussion

1. Pete Creticos provided a summary of the conference held on October 5-6, 2017. Artist and poet Natasha performed at the conference.
2. Commissioner Valerie Leonard commented that the conference was very interesting and focused on strategies.
3. Chair Garcia invited Commissioners and the public to review the website and the reports that were generated and think about ways to incorporate the arts and artists into the Commission's activities.

VI. Guest Speaker

Thomas Day, Managing Partner of Invent 2026, a nonprofit economic development agency building a Midwest innovation corridor rooted in invention, technology transfer and entrepreneurship.

Discussion

Discussion turned to Amazon headquarters. Emile Cambry commented that when we look at Amazon we need to consider the talent gap, whether we have individuals that can be employed, what kind of workforce development do we need?

Victor Dickson commented that in Seattle lower income communities were displaced. Commented that an analysis needs to be done before providing incentives wholesale.

VII. Other Business

Dickson proposed a Socio Economic Impact Analysis. The concept is to establish a requirement that local government ensure an analysis is conducted on the possible impact of economic development initiatives, utilizing public funds, on the socio economic well-being of the citizens. This would be related to vulnerable populations like the elderly, children, the disabled, the poor and minorities. A report would be generated which includes the analysis and recommendations to ensure that these initiatives are implemented in a way to mitigate any negative consequences to these populations.

Commissioner Loveless supported the proposal.

Commissioner Doig commented that in Pullman Metropolitan Council is looking at quality of life, crime, housing in a report that will be ready next year.

Commissioner Garcia supported Dickson's proposal and asked to serve as ex-officio. He also asked the committee on social capital to take on this proposal.

Marc Lane also supported Dickson's proposal and asked the committee and asked to serve as ex-officio. Lane stated that the county has a fiscal analysis and should have social impact analysis.

VIII. Public Comment

None

IX. Adjourn

Commissioner Yonan moved to adjourn.

Commissioner Dickson seconded.