

**Allegheny County Department of Equity and Inclusion
MWDBE Advisory Committee Meeting
Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams
Wednesday, May 15, 2024
1:00 PM**

Agenda

- I. Open Meeting**
- II. Roll Call of Attendance**
- III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (March 20, 2024)**
- IV. Open Discussion**
- V. Next Meeting Date and Desired Topics**
- VI. Miscellaneous**
- VII. Adjournment**

Allegheny County MWDBE Advisory Committee Meeting Attendees
May 15, 2024, 1:00 PM

Advisory Committee Members in Attendance:

Roxanne Sewell – President, The LJS Group
James Overton – President/Principal Advisor, Overton Financial Group
Tim Stevens – Chairman, Black Political Empowerment Project (B-PEP)
Holly Douglas – Vice President, Cosmos Technologies, Inc

Advisory Committee Members Absent:

M. Gayle Moss – Chair, MBE Advisory Committee
Alberto Benzaquen – Commissioner, Pittsburgh Commission on Human Relations

Advisory Committee County Liaison Members Present:

Loren Ganoë – Human Services
Jason Molinero – Public Works
Kelly Stockman – Purchasing
Sydney Rabinovitz – Economic Development
Kevin Halaja – Facilities Management

Advisory Committee County Liaison Members Absent:

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Also Present:

Lisa Edmonds – Chief Officer, Allegheny County Department of Equity and Inclusion
Damian Wiles – Deputy Director, Department of Equity and Inclusion

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I. Open Meeting

The meeting was called to order.

II. Roll Call of Attendance

Attendance of committee members and liaisons was taken.

III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (March 20, 2024)

There were no additions or corrections to the March 20, 2024, meeting minutes. The minutes were approved as written.

New Appointees

IV. Open Discussion

Discussion about the committee members ensued. The County Executive's recent list of appointees and re-appointees submitted to County Council for approval was shared with the committee:

New Appointees

- Barata Bey
- Blayre I. Britton
- Cameil Williams
- Guillermo Velasquez
- Kanak Iyer
- Melanie M. Boyers
- Victoria Snyder
- Kevin Jenkins
- Brian K. Oglesby
- Cynthia Oliver

Re-Appointees

- Roxanne Sewell
- Tim Stevens

It was noted that Roxanne Sewell, Tim Stevens, M. Gayle Moss, and James Overton expressed interest in being re-appointed. However, the latter two were not reappointed. It also noted that Brian Burley had previously been on the committee but hadn't attended any meetings. James Overton expressed his gratitude for serving on the committee and working with the members over the years. He expressed his openness to being available to speak with the remaining committee members at any time. DEI and the committee expressed their pleasure in working with James and noted his valuable contributions to the committee. James thanked the committee and DEI and excused himself from the meeting. Tim Stevens expressed his concern that Gayle and James had not been re-appointed. Roxanne noted that appointments are at the pleasure of the County Executive. The committee

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members discussed selecting/voting on a chairperson since M. Gayle Moss had not been re-appointed. The committee decided to table the discussion.

V. Next Meeting Date and Desired Topics

The next meeting is scheduled virtually on June 19, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. All approved appointees will be invited to the next meeting. In an attempt to eliminate DEI having to re-present information on the MWDBE compliance processes, the committee agreed to put a hold on the presentations until all newly appointed members are on board.

VI. Miscellaneous

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VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.