

Meeting Minutes - Elected Committee of Managers November 16, 2018

Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort and Spa
9800 Hyatt Resort Drive
San Antonio, TX 78251

Meeting was held after the BLAST 2018 Conference and was called to order at 11:00 a.m.

Roll call of E C M and Guests

E C M Representatives present:

Aloha Cook, Karla Martinez, Chair, Clayton Hell, Cecilia Wilson, Kristen McNabb-Pattison, Paul Parker, Dwayne Zuppardo and Steve Saltzman.

Audience members included Zach Snow from Georgia plus guest, John DeSimone, Laydell Rogers and wife, Rufino Acosta and wife, Jenna Norwood plus guest, Marion Green, Tom and Kim Chepey, Dave Corbett and wife, Tammy Nowell, Manny Sifuentes and Elizabeth Chaney plus guest.

B E T Staff Attending

Michael Hooks, B E T Director

Approval of minutes of last meeting

E C M Chairperson Clayton Hell called for approval of the minutes from the prior E C M Meeting.

Director's Report

Mike Hooks reported on the program status as of the end of fiscal year 2018 with updates as noted:

Facilities Information

There are currently 114 facilities in B E T. There are zero pending new facilities and no facilities closed this quarter. There were seventy-one facilities that had operational areas of business upgraded this year. There are currently 101 assigned managers. There is one unassigned licensed manager, Mr. Bill Jones. Ten managers left the program this year including Mark Russell, Bill Pearce, J D Stewart, Peggy Scott, Billy Joe Hutchison, John Watson, Sr. (deceased), Ralph Thornell, Ramiro Aranda, Harvey Johnson (deceased) and Travis Warren. Ms. Laura Lewis and Mr. Eric Sifuentes became licensed on November 9, 2018.

There are currently thirteen facilities with temporary management:

Bruce Best – Brazoria Vending

Dwayne Zuppardo – I R S Snack Bar

Mario Valles - Hardeman County Rest Area Vending

Mario Valles – Donley County Vending

Roberto Pena – Hidalgo County Court House

Zach Davis – A. Maceo Smith Federal Bldg.

Randy Clutter – Orange County Vending

Gay Nimitz – San Antonio Vending

Mike Sparks – Texas Workforce Commission (T W C) Vending

Zach Davis – Federal Building

John Watson, Jr. – Franklin County Vending

Tommy Crawford – Cowtown Vending

Robert Jones – L B J Vending

There are two facilities with outsourced management:

VA Waco – Rene Hearn

NASA – Shemika Fills

Service Delivery – Business Visitations Completed

Year to date total visitations: 2,887

Value of equipment ordered and or delivered in support of businesses: \$922,010.

Number of Blind Employees in B E T Businesses:

1st Quarter: 14

2nd Quarter: 12

3rd Quarter: 10

4th Quarter: 12

Number of Employees with Other Disabilities in B E T Businesses:

1st Quarter: 165

2nd Quarter: 163

3rd Quarter: 160

4th Quarter: 157

Current Events:

The BET Director and members of the ECM just completed a state wide recruiting campaign that included all six V R regions. There was a member of the E C M at five of the six presentations.

We continue to work on ways to utilize electronic transfer of funds to eliminate the archaic “checks in the mail” system.

We are sending our newly revised rules to both R S A and public comment on December 14th. Once again, we found a way to agree on how the program should be administered.

Financial Status:

The financial status of the program was reviewed.

The audience, Director and ECM discussed third party vending service contracts, manager referred facilities, upcoming legislative session and annual B E T performance.

Chairman's Report:

Chairman Hell provided an overview of national issues affecting Randolph Sheppard.

District Reports

Each representative provided a report on events occurring in their district.

Sub Committees Report

Rules and By-Laws Sub Committee

The Committee and Director discussed the schedule for the rules going to public comment in the Texas Register. There were no new bylaws to be discussed.

Finance and Budget Sub Committee –

Karla Martinez presented the financial status of the committee.

Election Sub Committee –

Cecilia Wilson discussed the upcoming elections and proposed a system for handling ballots when the E C M Chair was a candidate for office.

Training Conference Sub Committee –

The BLAST conference was discussed along with the fact that preparations were already underway for the next annual conference to be held in Austin, 2019.

Training of Potential Managers Sub Committee –

Karla Martinez discussed the recent graduates.

Vending Sub Committee –

Aloha Cook provided an update on the status of the current pricing review. She noted that an increase was on the way but, there were some details to finalize before enacting the new pricing structure.

Set Date and Location for Next Meeting or Workshop

Next meeting will be held in Austin, Texas on January 19, 2019.

Adjournment