



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Approved COMMITTEE ON SWEATFREE PURCHASES

Wednesday, March 21, 2012

5:30 PM

210 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd
Room 406 (City-County Building)

Note: A quorum of the Common Council may be in attendance at this meeting.

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Jonathan Rosenblum called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm.

Present: 4 -

Satya V. Rhodes-Conway; Jonathan D. Rosenblum; Matthew C. Earley
and Carol Bracewell

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None

ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED

1. [21508](#) Standing update on sweatfree and purchasing activities- Purchasing

Sweatfree Purchasing Consortium (SPC) annual meeting will be on June 5. Agenda for the annual meeting is attached. SPC's new database project is projected to be launched on April 17. Vendors will be able to upload their factory location information themselves without charge. There will be an annual cost for vendors to access the database.

2. [25612](#) 2011 ANNUAL SWEATFREE COMMITTEE REPORT

A motion was made by Rosenblum, seconded by Earley, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ACCEPT - REPORT OF OFFICER. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

3. [22534](#) "Sliding Scale" Method of Compliance
 1. Bracewell and McGuire met with vendors who currently have uniform contracts with the City to inform them of the new sliding scale compliance requirements for renewal of their contracts. Lark, Red, and Unifirst attended the meeting. The vendors did not have any objections about the process. They were also receptive to the idea of having their (factory) information entered in a national database because of the potential for new business.
 2. The sliding scale method will be used to determine vendor's compliance for the next contract renewal period. The compliance will not be competitive at this time but will be when these contracts come up for bid. The range of competition could be weighted, using the same scale assigned to the local preference policy, which is 5% of the total available points in an RFP process.
 3. Revise Bidder Disclosure form to remove the notary requirement. This is not required by ordinance. The revised form will be made available to vendors in word format. The form should also include a notice of the possibility that the information submitted will be provided for inclusion in a national database of factory locations

4. [25625](#) Discussion of City process for uniform specification and contract development

How does MFD develop uniform specifications? Purchasing guards against restrictive specifications. Brand names, when used, are intended to communicate performance and functional characteristics. 'Union made' requirements, if specified, can be restrictive as well, because vendors who may be complying with labor and wage standards can be restricted from competing. Likewise, "made in America" requirements do not guarantee that manufacturers comply with labor and wage laws. The way to address the open, fair and non-restrictive requirement for competition would be to specify and enforce sweatshop free standards.

Next steps:

 1. Schedule a presentation next meeting by Randy/Monette about how the Purchasing process works.
 2. Need to address sweatfree requirement not just by pushing on the vendors but also by working from within with City agencies. Committee will consider meeting with other departments.
 3. Evaluate schedule for future bid and contract renewals and preemptively work with vendors towards compliance with the new sliding scale requirement.

5. [25419](#) Committee meeting schedule and membership
 1. All members whose terms are expiring at the end of April will be reappointed for the another 3 year term.
 2. An application from an LLPC member is pending approval by the Mayor.
 3. One alternate seat remains unfilled.
 4. Evaluate the need to change the LLPC member requirement to a general student member who is active in labor issues.
 5. Will set up new regular schedule when student is present.
 6. Monette to send out doodle poll for week of Apr 23rd and Apr 30th

6. [22946](#) Review of Workplan Progress
1. Update workplan after evaluating results of vendor compliance with the new sliding scale requirement during the contract renewal process and after presentation by Purchasing.
 2. Attach copy of workplan with the minutes.
7. [19185](#) Announcements
- None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Carol Bracewell, seconded by Satya Rhodes-Conway at 6:42 PM.