

NEW JERSEY COMMISSION ON SCIENCE, INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY

June 5, 2020

Friday, June 5, 2020 Telephonic Annual Meeting

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Members of the Commission: Gunjan Doshi, InRhythm, Chairman; Public Members Debbie Hart, BioNJ, Vice Chair; David Pascrell, Gibbons, Treasurer; Dr. Joel Bloom, President, NJIT; and Dr. Alain Kornhauser, Princeton University; Ex-Officio Members: Brian Sabina for Tim Sullivan, CEO of the New Jersey Economic Development Authority; Ralph Hoag for Commissioner Lamont Repollet of the Dept. of Education; and Diana Gonzalez for Dr. Zakiya Smith Ellis, Secretary of the Office of Higher Education; Non-Voting Members: Dr. Nariman Farvardin, President, Stevens Institute of Technology; Non-Voting Legislative Members: Assemblyman Christopher DePhillips; Assemblyman Andrew Zwicker; and Senator Robert Singer.

Members absent: Public Member: Charlene Brown, AT&T; and Non-Voting Members Dr. Robert Barchi, Rutgers; and Senator Paul Sarlo.

Also present: Judith Sheft, Executive Director, CSIT; Kathleen Coviello, Executive EVP, Technology & Life Sciences, NJEDA; Danielle Esser, Director, Governance and Strategic Initiatives, NJEDA; Fatou Jobe, Project Officer, NJEDA; Muneerah Sanders, Executive Assistant, NJEDA; Deputy Attorney General Elizabeth Tillou; Stephanie Brown, Governor's Authorities Unit; John Rosenfeld, Director, Audit and Compliance, NJEDA, and Hearing Officer for the CSIT appeals on the meeting agenda, and staff.

Chairman Doshi called the meeting to order at 10:00 am with a quorum of the Commission present, including seven voting members.

Per the Chairman's request, Muneerah Sanders read the Open Public Meetings announcement and performed the roll call of the Commission.

The seven voting members present at the time of the Roll Call included:

1. Gunjan Doshi, InRhythm, Chairman;
2. Debbie Hart, BioNJ, Vice Chair;
3. David Pascrell, Gibbons, Treasurer;
4. Dr. Joel Bloom, President, NJIT;
5. Brian Sabina for Tim Sullivan, CEO of the New Jersey Economic Development Authority;
6. Ralph Hoag for Commissioner Lamont Repollet of the Dept. of Education; and
7. Diana Gonzalez for Dr. Zakiya Smith Ellis, Secretary of the Office of Higher Education;

Dr. Kornhauser joined the meeting approximately 15 minutes later.

Prior to commencing the meeting, Chairman Doshi asked Danielle Esser to read aloud the public comment policy and process for any members of the public on the call, requesting any members of the public to announce themselves at this time and identify any matter on which they plan to speak with regard to the meeting agenda. No members of the public presented themselves at this time.

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The first item was the approval of the February 21, 2020 meeting minutes.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Ms. Hart **SECOND:** Ms. Gonzalez **AYES: 6**
Dr. Bloom abstained because he was absent from the February 21, 2020 meeting.

COMMISSION MATTERS

The Chairman asked Danielle Esser to present this item which requested approval of the CSIT officers, acknowledged the Chair's re-appointment of the three active committees, with Chairs for each respective committee, the Executive Committee, Audit Committee and the Program Committee, and requested the members' approval of the Calendar of Meetings through April 2021.

ITEM: Annual Organizational Meeting

REQUEST: To approve the recommendations associated with the annual organizational meeting.

Danielle Esser presented this item.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Mr. Sabina **SECOND:** Ms. Hart **AYES: 7**

RESOLUTION ATTACHED AND MARKED EXHIBIT: 1

FOR INFORMATION ONLY: The next item was the presentation of the Chairman's Report to the Commission.

Chairman Doshi called attention to social discourse and social injustices in society given the tragedy of George Floyd. He also commented on the COVID-19 pandemic and how it is impacting the economy and companies that the CSIT is seeking to support. He thanked the members and staff for their commitment to CSIT, and he communicated his hopes for a promising future for the Commission through this challenging time.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY: The next item was the presentation of the Executive Director's Report. Judith Sheft summarized the 2019 Annual Report for the members and outlined the future goals given budget constraints for the organization.

ITEM: 2019 Annual Report

REQUEST: To approve the Commission's Annual Report for 2019.

Judith Sheft presented this item.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Dr. Bloom **SECOND:** Ms. Hart **AYES: 7**

RESOLUTION ATTACHED AND MARKED EXHIBIT: 2

SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH (SBIR) AND SMALL BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROGRAM (STTR) SUPPORT PROGRAM

ITEM: Rescind FAST award to NJII

REQUEST: To approve rescinding of the previous grant approval of \$125,000 awarded to the New Jersey Innovation Institute as the FAST winner of the SBIR/STTR Program.

Judith Sheft presented this item.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Mr. Sabina **SECOND:** Ms. Hart **AYES: 7**

RESOLUTION ATTACHED AND MARKED EXHIBIT: 3

Dr. Kornhauser joined the call at this time.

Dr. Bloom abstained because he is President of NJIT, the parent organization to NJII.

Chairman Doshi asked Danielle Esser to read aloud the appeal process at this time which is that the Commission serves as the final decision-maker. If the applicant is dissatisfied with the Commission's final administrative decision, it may appeal to the Appellate Division of the Superior Court of New Jersey, pursuant to the Rules of the Court.

ITEM: Technical Assistance and Direct Financial Assistance (FAST Grant)

REQUEST: To approve the elimination of component 1 of the Small Business Innovation Research, and Small Business Technology Transfer Program Support Programs

Judith Sheft presented this item.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Ms. Hart **SECOND:** Ms. Gonzalez **AYES: 8**

RESOLUTION ATTACHED AND MARKED EXHIBIT: 4

ITEM: Small Business Innovation Research, and Small Business Technology Transfer Program Support Program.

REQUEST: To approve \$25K of additional funding to the Small Business Innovation Research, and Small Business Technology Transfer Program Support Program.

Judith Sheft presented this item.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Dr. Bloom **SECOND:** Mr. Pascrell **AYES: 8**

RESOLUTION ATTACHED AND MARKED EXHIBIT: 5

SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH (SBIR) AND SMALL BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROGRAM (STTR) SUPPORT PROGRAM UPDATE APPEALS

Prior to proceeding with the presentation of the recommendations on the appeals by the Hearing Officer, Chairman Doshi asked Danielle Esser to read aloud the appeals process for any members of the public present in relation to one of the related agenda items, which is as follows:

The Commission serves as the final decision-maker. If the applicant is dissatisfied with the Commission's final administrative decision, it may appeal to the Appellate Division of the Superior Court of New Jersey, pursuant to the Rules of the Court.

Chairman Doshi moved forward with the Agenda.

ITEM: Aspen Consulting Group

REQUEST: Approve the Hearing Officer's recommendation to deny Aspen Consulting Group's appeal and affirm the CSIT's denial for a Phase II grant of \$50K for the SBIR/STTR support program.

John Rosenfeld, CSIT Hearing Officer, presented this item.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Dr. Bloom **SECOND:** Dr. Kornhauser **AYES: 8**

RESOLUTION ATTACHED AND MARKED EXHIBIT: 6

ITEM: Innovations Unlimited LLC

REQUEST: To approve the Hearing Officer's recommendation to deny Innovations Unlimited LLC's appeal and affirm the CSIT's denial for a Phase II grant of \$50K for the SBIR/STTR support program.

John Rosenfeld, CSIT Hearing Officer, presented this item.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Dr. Bloom **SECOND:** Ms. Hart **AYES: 8**

RESOLUTION ATTACHED AND MARKED EXHIBIT: 7

Ms. Darlene Sawyer, co-owner, Innovations Unlimited LLC, addressed the Commission, stating that they weren't aware that their 2017 taxes weren't filed until the end of January. Innovations Unlimited LLC had filed taxes through Tax Act, but evidently, they weren't transmitted to the Dept. of Taxation. She added that the tax professional hired to file their taxes had unfortunately passed away.

Chairman Doshi stated that if Ms. Sawyer is dissatisfied with the Commission's decision, she may appeal to the Appellate Division of the Superior Court of New Jersey.

ITEM: JME Group Associates, Inc.

REQUEST: To approve the Hearing Officer's recommendation to deny JME Group Associates Inc's appeal of the CSIT's denial for a Phase II grant of \$50K for the SBIR/STTR support program.

John Rosenfeld, CSIT Hearing Officer, presented this item.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Dr. Bloom **SECOND:** Ms. Gonzales **AYES: 8**

RESOLUTION ATTACHED AND MARKED EXHIBIT: 8

ITEM: Plumeria Therapeutics Inc.

REQUEST: To 1.) approve the Hearing Officer's recommendation on Plumeria Therapeutics Inc's appeal of denial decision for a Phase I grant of \$25K for the SBIR/STTR support program; 2.) direct staff to score the application of Plumeria Therapeutics Inc; and 3.) delegate authority to the Executive Director to award a Phase I grant of \$25K to Plumeria Therapeutics Inc.'s for the SBIR/STTR support program if funding is available.

John Rosenfeld, CSIT Hearing Officer, presented this item.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Dr. Bloom **SECOND:** Mr. Sabina **AYES: 8**

RESOLUTION ATTACHED AND MARKED EXHIBIT: 9

ITEM: Princeton Infrared Technologies, Inc.

REQUEST: To approve the Hearing Officer's recommendation to deny Princeton Infrared Technologies Inc.'s appeal of CSIT's denial for a Phase II grant of \$50K for the SBIR/STTR support program.

John Rosenfeld, CSIT Hearing Officer, presented this item.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Dr. Bloom **SECOND:** Ms. Hart **AYES: 8**

RESOLUTION ATTACHED AND MARKED EXHIBIT: 10

ITEM: SunRay Scientific LLC.

REQUEST: To approve the Hearing Officer's recommendation to deny SunRay Scientific LLC's appeal of CSIT's denial for a Phase I grant of \$2K for the SBIR/STTR support program.

John Rosenfeld, CSIT Hearing Officer, presented this item.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Dr. Bloom **SECOND:** Ms. Gonzales **AYES: 8**

RESOLUTION ATTACHED AND MARKED EXHIBIT: 11

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chairman Doshi asked Danielle Esser to read aloud the public comment policy for any members of the public who would like to speak.

There was no public comment at this time.

ADJOURNMENT:

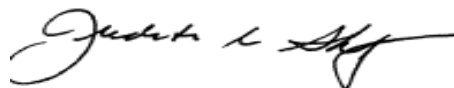
There being no further business, on a motion by Ms. Hart, and seconded by Dr. Kornhauser, the meeting was adjourned at 12:03pm.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next meeting date for the Commission on Science, Innovation, and Technology was scheduled for Friday, July 17, 2020 at 10:00 AM by teleconference.

CERTIFICATION:

The foregoing and attachments represent a true and complete summary of the actions taken by the Commission on Science, Innovation, and Technology at its Annual Meeting on June 5, 2020.



Judith Sheft, Executive Director
Secretary