

State and Local Government Sweatfree Consortium Interim Steering Committee

November 17, 2008- 2:15pm – 3:30pm EST (late start because technical glitch)

Present:

Liz Long, AFCME Council 13
Roxana Dietz, Pennsylvania
Eric Dirnbach, UNITE HERE
Carmen Herrera, San Francisco
Colleen Gardner, New York
Vicki Kaplan, SFC
Betty Lamoreau, Maine
Bjorn Claeson, SFC (facilitator, note taker)

1. Agenda Review: Agenda adopted as proposed.

2. October minutes

Minutes approved with following changes. Section 5e.: "New RFP will posted approximately November 14." Section 7c: "San Francisco has MOUs with city and county employees unions..." (not with "local vendors").

3. Local updates

Bama – via written report – Maryland is moving rapidly towards adopting sweatfree purchasing standards through governor's executive order.

Colleen: internal meeting in New York Thursday this week to discuss next steps with regard to sweatfree purchasing.

4. Cooperative independent monitoring RFP

Roxana, Betty: NASPO is no longer comfortable with the IM contract being a NASPO contract. It will instead be "multi-state contract." That means participating states' terms and conditions must be incorporated into the contract, which, in turn, requires another legal review. The RFP will be posted in approximately two weeks. All participating states need to post contract at the same time. Other states will still be able to join later. The pre-proposal conference for potential bidders will take place in January, possibly the week of the 12th or the week of the 26th. The bid will be due three weeks later. The cooperative apparel RFP has not yet been developed.

5. Consortium in-person meeting in Harrisburg

Discussion on coupling the pre-proposal conference for IM bidders with an in-person Consortium meeting. **The sense of the group was that it is a good idea to have an informal meeting for educational and planning purposes**, even though most cities and states have imposed travel restrictions. Part of the meeting could be open to telephone conferencing. The group was open to inviting other interested parties, such as representatives from New Jersey, Maryland, and Ohio. Liz offered space at AFSCME Council

13 and Roxana at the state office building. **The meeting date will be set when the date for the IM pre-proposal conference is set.**

6. White Paper discussion

- a. Section 6.3: on services Consortium will provide members: including helping to write language in bid documents; maintaining communication with Consortium members.
 - b. Section 6.5: marketing service should include demonstrating the value of joining the consortium, including studies showing that Consortium's approved vendors are "responsible bidders"
 - c. Section 7: i) should be renamed to identify research project in title; ii) should identify public employee unions as stakeholders in research project. Overall, **consensus that Consortium should undertake a research project as outlined in Section 7.**
 - d. Section 8: **consensus that the Consortium should be open to membership of non-governmental entities, such as religious organizations, that purchase apparel in bulk.**
- 7.** Next meeting: Monday, December 15, 11 am PST/2pm EST. Agenda will include January Harrisburg meeting and final revisions of White Paper before posting.