

FULL WDB MEMBERSHIP CONFERENCE

March 11, 2020

Members Present

Les Vail, WDB Chair
Tom Bianco, GC Economic Development
Brian Mattei, NJLWD Apprenticeship
Katie Doyle, Div. Social Services
Derek Gatling, FBO
Bernadette Drew, DWD
Peter Kaprielyan, Inspira
Quincy Lee, NJLWD
Michael Dicken, GCIT
Robert DeMarco, NJLWD
Susan Perron, Abilities Solutions
Bryan Miller, Abilities Solutions
Lisa Cerny, GC Human & Disability Services
Kathy Farinaccio, Business
Glen Donelson, MASCEC
Theresa Rohlfing, CILSJ
Marie Rafter, GC Probation
Kimberly Gober, GC Housing Authority
Kim Alexander, GCIT
Bridget DiGiambattista, WDB Staff

Michelle Shirey, WDB Executive Director
Michael Girone, WDB Vice Chair
Andrea Rivera, DVRS
Nick Burdick, USDOL
Ashley Rastelli, WDB
Krista Lope, DVRS
JaNea Wilson, NJLWD
Tom Fletcher, Business
Cleve Bryan, Business
Alisha Thompson, DWD
Wayne Love, FBO
Christina Velazquez, GC Planning
Patty Claghorn, RCSJ
Victoria Carpenter, MASCEC
Crystal Noba, People in Transition
Cindy Gaither, CILSJ
Brigette Satchell, RCSJ
Dan Ruotolo, Business
Stan Hershey, DWD

Visitors

Marc Leckington, Triad Associates
Amy Charlesworth, People in Transition
Keith Wardrip, Federal Reserve Bank of Phila.

Alicia Britton, Amazon
James Gastner, Federal Reserve Bank of Phila.

Les opened the meeting at 8:15 am

Salute the Flag
Verification of quorum was made.

A motion to approve December 9, 2019 meeting minutes was made by W. Love, seconded by C. Bryan.

The Oath of Office was administered to re-appointed WDB members Michael Dicken and Brigette Satchell by Tom Bianco.

Guest Speakers

Keith Wardrip, Community Development Research Manager from Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia provided presentation on Opportunity Occupations: Driving Outcomes for Workers Without a Bachelor's Degree. A copy of the presentation is attached.

Alycia Britton, Engagement Coordinator from Amazon spoke about her experience with Amazon and the career pathways available to employees at Amazon. She was a college graduate not happy in her career, she started at Amazon as seasonal part time associate at night. She then took opportunity to convert to permanent employee, which allowed her opportunities to become full time and advance in the company. She stated Amazon also offers tuition reimbursement for anyone who has worked for Amazon for 1 year as a permanent employee (full or part time) and they offer full time benefits for full time permanent employees on first day of employment.

Christina Velazquez, Supervising Program Development Specialist, GC Housing and Community Development/Planning Division provided presentation on the required 5 year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan to serve as blue print for how HUD, CDBG, & Home Allocations are to be distributed. She stated they need to gauge what the priorities for the county should be and that a link for a survey will be available on her departments website in the future. A copy of the presentation is attached.

Patty C. stated they have a large a number of students that have issues with fair housing and they have students that are homeless. A meeting will be scheduled with RCSJ, GC Housing Authority and Div. Human & Disability Services.

WDB Update

Michelle presented copy of WDB new annual report and the accomplishments are listed for the year. Business retention stats from Gloucester County businesses looking to hire or expand: worked with 39; held 53 positive recruitments with special thanks to J. Wilson, NJLWD Business Services Rep at the AJC, she works directly with the businesses. Participating visits – 19,508, job openings received - 5,898. She thanked everyone for their help. The youth program has exceed goals by 133.8% this year and thanked Cleve Bryan, Youth Development Cmt. Chair and Michael Dicken, Super. GCIT for staff that works at Youth Education & Career Center.

Announcements

Christina announced the US Census will be open March 12 online – www.2020census.gov .

Nick Burdick, USDOL/Apprenticeship announced the new Industry-Recognized Apprenticeship Programs, visit apprenticeship.gov for information about the program. This different from the currently apprenticeship program currently operating. He stated there will be upcoming webinars and frequently asked questions on the website.

A motion for adjournment was made by C. Bryan, seconded by W. Love.

The next meeting will be held June 3, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Bridget A. DiGiambattista, WDB Staff