

## APPRENTICESHIP & INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT

August 9, 2018

### Members Present

Jack Fisher, Chair  
Tom Bianco, GC Economic Development  
Cindy Cliver, Abilities Solutions  
Robert DeMarco, NJLWD  
Brigette Satchell, RCGC  
Alisha Thompson, DWD  
Patty Claghorn, RCGC  
Bridget DiGiambattista, WDB Staff

Kim Alexander, GCIT  
Ralph Bingham, GC Library System  
Ranee Davidson, RCGC  
Stan Hershey, DWD  
Jennifer Shaw-Knab, DVRS  
JaNea Wilson, NJLWD  
John Furfari, WDB Staff

### Members Absent

Sam Ferraino, Co-Chair  
Jeff Berger, Union  
Anthony DiFabio, Robin's Nest  
Lou Jiacopello, Union  
Brian Mattei, County Apprentice Coord.  
Dan Ruotolo, Business

Anthony Bellia, Business  
Michael Blatt, USDOL  
Michael Dugan, NJLWD  
Peter Kaprielyan, Business  
James Robinson, Business  
Michelle Shirey, WDB Director

Jack opened the meeting at 8:35 am.

A motion to approve May 10, 2018 minutes was made by A. Thompson, seconded by J. Wilson.

### **Old Business**

National Manufacturing Day is October 5, 2018 but the entire month is considered National Manufacturing month. At the May 10, 2018 meeting we discussed hosting an event at the Library. Ralph stated he will be the new Director of the County Library. He has recommended working with staff at the Innovation Studio on the RCGC campus for a smaller type event. Patty asked who are we targeting? Brigitte asked if the goal of the project is to get people employed or create an awareness. She stated the Advance TDC has funding to support people looking for employment and can connect employers. This would be an opportunity to create and awareness but also have a recruitment event. Tom recommended we focus on career opportunities, wages, and apprenticeship programs we have done. Patty suggested reaching out to manufacturers, confirming no more than 8 employers, hold a short panel, she offered to hold at the Business & Corporate Center. Tom stated the Talent Network has a kickoff event in October. Brigitte suggested working with the Talent Network Group since they have events however, most are held up north and we don't want to be competing. Tom recommended inviting the talent networks to the MEGA job fair on October 12, 2018. It was suggested to have a manufacturing employer present at one of the workshops to talk about manufacturing. Several ideas were suggested on how to identify the networks at the job fair.

### **New Business**

John stated the pushback they get from some of the businesses on establishing an apprenticeship program is that it is too long of a process in filling out and following up on paperwork. Jack stated the WDB is looking at procuring a 3<sup>rd</sup> party to follow through on application process. Tom stated RCGC developed a program for Paulsboro Refinery, they had a 2 year process technology program & graduated their first class this year. Another successful program was for Kellogg's, they had a food manufacturing program. John reported AC Schulte's has an apprenticeship program in place. Patty reported Caldwell University is involved in pilot program where apprentices are being funded at the college, however, she does not have much information. She stated if the college could act as central point of contact for apprentices that would be actionable. Brigitte reported there are some grant opportunities on a federal level and hear that in 2019 many workforce development dollars will target apprenticeship and if start having conversations we may be able to apply for our region.

**Updates**

DVRS – Jenn reported they had up to 10 clients scheduled for interviews with Goodwill Industries from the Disability Employment Job Fair and 3 have been hired so far. Also from the job fair, they have 8-10 new clients they are supporting.

GCIT – Kim reported GCIT was awarded grant funding from Walmart Corporation to support advanced manufacturing and transportation logistics.

John reported Engage by Cell program has crossed over 5,500 users.

A motion for adjournment was made by B. Satchell, seconded by P. Claghorn.

The next meeting will be held November 8, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Bridget A. DiGiambattista, WDB Staff