

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
Randee 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? Brigette 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. Brigette 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 3rd 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. Brigette 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