

EXECUTIVE & ONE STOP

October 17, 2018

Members Present

Les Vail, Chair
Ralph Bingham, GC Library System
Lisa Cerny, GC Human & Disability Svcs.
Heather Faulkner, GC Housing Authority
Dr. William King, Community Needs Assessment
Brigette Satchell, RCGC
Stacey Smith, DVRS
Bridget DiGiambattista, WDB Staff

Tom Bianco, GC Economic Development
Tom Brown, MASCEC
Robert DeMarco, NJLWD
Stephen Hart, DWD
Brother Charles, St. John of God
Michelle Shirey, WDB Director
Eileen Gallo, WDB Staff

Members Absent

Michael Girone, Vice-Chair
Cleve Bryan, Youth Development
Sam Ferraino, Apprenticeship & Industry Devel.
Hunter Kintzing, Resource Analysis & Budget
Denise Taguwa, NJLWD

Anthony Bellia, Marketing & Business Outreach
Michael Dicken, GCIT
Jack Fisher, Apprenticeship & Industry Dev.
William Lang, Div. Social Services

Les opened the meeting at 2:30 pm.

A motion to approve July 18, 2018 minutes was made by Dr. King, seconded by T. Bianco.

Committee Reports

Apprenticeship – Michelle reported we are working on new Pre-Apprenticeship program through NJ Builds for women & minorities. We will be reaching out to FBO's and our partners regarding recruitment for the program. They expect the program to start in early 2019.

Community Needs Assessment – Dr. King reported an issue was discussed at the recent meeting regarding the inmates not having access to register for GA28 day cash benefit assistance before release. Eileen reported a white paper was developed and sent to C. McKelvey, rep for ex-offenders for the State, he then forwarded to J. Dombroski. Lisa asked if this information could be shared with Div. Social Services and the GC Warden.

Marketing & Business Outreach – meeting was postponed since it was scheduled the day before the job fair. Michelle reported we had another successful job fair, we are finding there are more job openings than job seekers. We are hoping when Amazon starts their minimum hourly wage of \$15/per hour on November 1, 2018 that will help with wages for underemployed/unemployed. What the WDB & AJC is trying to get people on career pathways with sustainable wages so they can advance & have a career pathway and not just a job.

Youth Development – Tom reported the students are doing well taking the Hi-Set test. They feel low enrollment is due to the districts offering their own two-light programs. Les recommends further discussion at next Marketing meeting on how to make school districts more aware of this program.

New/Old Business

Infrastructure Funding Agreement (IFA) & AJC Operating Budget was presented. No changes to IFA, however Michelle indicated we are working with RCGC and GC Chamber on plans for a new building in which the AJC, WDB, Econ. Dev., and GC Chamber will be housed. Negotiations with the State on the lease agreement are still ongoing but hope to include the 'numbers' in next quarter IFA. A motion to approve the quarterly IFA and AJC Operating Budget was made by T. Bianco, seconded by S. Hart.

PY17 Annual Report was presented, Michelle thanked Eileen for doing a great job. We did put in our report to SETC that we have an overall 17.6% decrease in funding and have expressed our concern to the State that we need more money in WIOA dislocated for training. We did receive additional funding in WFNJ and needs based. We asked them to look at the levels we were funded in 2015/16 and we need to have that level of funding to serve our clients. We are seeing an increase in clients coming to the AJC.

Announcements

Lisa C. expressed a “thank you” to Tom Brown & Tom Bianco for putting together a job readiness workshop for those living in sober living homes prior to the MEGA job fair. She also thanked Stacey Smith for organizing a meeting for Project Search, located in Camden County, which recently added the adult population. The Larc School is interested in doing a blended program of both developmentally disabled youth and those that are eligible for the ACT program. They are interested in looking to have a Project Search in Gloucester County, however, transportation would be a concern. Pureland Shuttle started a Saturday, the first Saturday had 68 riders, the second Saturday had 73 riders with a goal of 100 riders on Saturday.

Tom Brown reported beginning 10/18/18 MidAtlantic States Career & Education Center (MASCEC) along with PhilAbundance will begin a year round weekly food distribution in Woodbury every Thursday for 200 households.

Ralph reported the GCLS has been awarded by NJDOL the Community Library Adult Literacy and Career Pathway program in the amount of \$92,000.00, they will partner with MASCEC. They will also provide same training to Gloucester County residents incarcerated in the Salem County Correctional Facility. Eileen stated they met with MASCEC and set up referral process to the AJC for inmates.

Stacey reported October is Disability Employment Awareness month and their agency will host an event on 10/31/18 at Camden County College. They will be honoring the southern DVR offices where counselors nominated individuals they have worked with and are now employed and doing well. Gloucester County has 2 individuals selected and their employers will also be present.

Brigitte reported RCGC is one of the 13 New Jersey community colleges selected to participate in a \$25 million Community College Opportunity Grant pilot initiative. Beginning spring 2019, RCGC current and new students with household adjusted gross incomes less than \$45,000 a year will be eligible for a tuition-free college education. An information session for prospective students and families interested in finding out more about the new Community College Opportunity Grant will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 23rd. RCGC has asked for an extension for the Financial Talent Center due to a significant amount of money remaining and working with the employers has taken a bit longer to get through the process.

Stephen reported from July to September the minimum wage for clients who obtained employment is \$13.15 per hour and the maximum about is \$20.47.

Robert reported staff at AJC are able to help those filing for unemployment insurance. L. Fiorile was promoted to Lead Counselor for Tuition Waiver and the new vet rep is Nelli David.

A motion for adjournment was made by T. Bianco, seconded by Dr. King.

Respectfully submitted,
Bridget A. DiGiambattista, WDB Staff