

EXECUTIVE & ONE STOP OPERATIONS

January 16, 2019

Members Present

Les Vail, WDB Chair
Anthony Bellia, Marketing & Business
Tom Brown, Mid-Atlantic States Career & Educ. Ctr.
Michael Dicken, GCIT
Kim Gober, GC Housing Authority
Dr. William King, Community Needs
Brigette Satchell, RCGC
Denise Taguwa, NJLWD
Susan Perron, Abilities Solutions
Jack Fisher, Apprenticeship & Industry
Bridget DiGiambattista, WDB Staff

Michael Girone, WDB Vice Chair
Ralph Bingham, GC Library System
Robert DeMarco, NJLWD
Sam Ferraino, Apprenticeship & Industry
Stephen Hart, DWD
Brother Charles, St. John of God
Michelle Shirey, WDB Executive Director
Tom Fletcher, Resource Analysis & Budget
Peter Kaprielyan, Apprenticeship & Industry
Eileen Gallo, WDB Staff

Members Absent

Tom Bianco, GC Economic Development
Lisa Cerny, GC Human & Disability Svcs.
Stacey Smith, DVRS

Cleve Bryan, Youth Development
Hunter Kintzing, Resource Analysis & Budget

Michelle opened the meeting at 2:30 pm.

The Oath of Office was administered to re-appointed WDB members by B. DiGiambattista.

Nomination for WDD Chair & WDB Vice Chair

Dr. King reported there were two people nominated for each position, Les Vail nominated for WDB Chair and Michael Girone nominated for WDB Vice Chair. Ballots were emailed to all voting members. As a result of nominations received, the Nominating Committee recommended Les Vail as WDB Chair and Michael Girone as WDB Vice Chair. A motion was made to the Executive Committee to accept recommendation to elect Les Vail as WDB Chair & Michael Girone as WDB Vice Chair. A motion to approve the recommended appointments was made by S. Ferraino, seconded by M. Dicken.

A motion to approve October 17, 2018 meeting minutes was made by S. Ferraino, seconded by Dr. King.

A motion to accept and approve the 2019 WDB Committee meeting schedule was made by M. Girone, seconded by S. Ferraino.

New/Old Business

WDB Committee Chair & Co-Chair Appointment

A motion to approve the committee chair & co chair appointments will remain.

WDB ByLaws

The Bylaws were presented, Les asked that WDB voting members review the ByLaws, and make any recommended changes. They will be presented at the April meeting for approval.

Operating Budget

We are still currently operating on the funds received in July and are still operating on the operating budget that was presented at the Full WDB Membership Conf. IFR – we are currently still operating IFR funding agreement and all payments are current.

Plans to relocate WDB, Economic Development, AJC, GC Chamber of Commerce to RCGC campus are ongoing. All agreements have been signed.

The unemployment rate is low however, it is not seasonally adjusted. Our unemployment rate is the lowest we've been in a decade. In 2018, we held 4 job fairs, 55 recruitments for 35 companies, all have either hired or taken advantage of hiring incentive programs. The next job fair is scheduled for March 29, 2019, we have scheduled a job fair for Sat. May 18, 2019 at St. Matthew's, and the Disability Employment job fair is scheduled for July 26, 2019. We have several recruitments already scheduled. The Quick Path to Energy program for Atlantic City Electric information session was 1/15 at RCGC and 26 individuals attended. They are scheduled for CASAS test the week of 1/28/19. The next info session is scheduled for 1/23/19.

WIOA Report – Michelle reported we are in the red for adult/dislocated for entered employment but we have until June 30, 2019 to balance. The youth is exceeding their goal. WFNJ participation rate continues to increase, she offered thanks to AJC and Stephen Hart who has pushed to increase the participation rate and get clients into work activities. Learning Link report – we are 79% towards goal, RCGC continues to do a great job with literacy program.

Mike asked regarding reduction of funds, if there is any read on underemployment. Michelle stated we are not given a metric on underemployment. Michelle stated we have been noticing a lot of underemployed attending our job fairs. Michelle added that we have requested this from the State in the past but they do not do this metric, we may be able to get nationally. Michelle stated our labor force has decreased slightly from 2018 which could be for multiple reasons. Anthony B. stated we do not know if there are known projections on mandatory minimum wage rate and if it will cause additional unemployment. Sam stated the challenge will be is technology. Anthony B. stated with unemployment being low a lot of manufacturers are actively spending money on technology.

Mike D. stated the Secure our Children's Future Act passed a vote in November and GCIT in partnership with RCGC will apply for a 15 million dollar grant to expand GCIT's footprint at the college. The initial design is called Academy of Applied Technology and Advanced Manufacturing.

Les stated we need to spread the word about the WDB and need more businesses involved in the WDB for exposure to show businesses what we can do for them. Michelle reported the WDB will be scheduling a Workforce Summit and have businesses speak with other businesses about their experiences and some of the programs we have put together, i.e. Paulsboro Refinery.

Brigitte reported they continue to work with the WDB in getting employers to the table to find out what their needs are and how we can help from a workforce perspective as well as the educational component. As Apprenticeship continues to grow, we will be looking at our Work & Learn Consortium to make it our model which will help with affordability as well.

A motion for adjournment was made by M. Girone, seconded by S. Ferraino.

The next meeting will be held April 17, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Bridget A. DiGiambattista, WDB Staff