

FULL WDB MEMBERSHIP CONFERENCE
December 9, 2019

Members Present

Les Vail, WDB Chair
Tom Bianco, GC Economic Development
Jennifer Shaw-Knab, DVRS
Jeff Berger, Local Union 322
Bryan Miller, Abilities Solutions
Jessica Laine, GC Housing Authority
Robert DeMarco, NJLWD
Ralph Bingham, GC Library System
Kimberly Quigley, St. John of God
Wayne Love, CBO
Jen Macchione, St. John of God
Bernadette Drew, DWD
Gregory Wright, YECC/GCIT
Lisa Cerny, GC Disability & Human Services
JaNea Wilson, NJLWD
Tom Brown, MASCEC
Kathy Farinaccio, Business
Eileen Gallo, WDB Staff
Daniele Spence, Freeholder Aide

Michelle Shirey, WDB Executive Director
Krista Lope, DVRS
Amy Charlesworth, People in Transition
Brian Mattei, GCIT/Apprenticeship
Cleve Bryan, Business
Anthony Bellia, Business
Kathleen Doyle, GC Div. Social Services
Patty Claghorn, RCSJ
Melissa Eckstein, Gateway High School
Ken Barnshaw, Business
Alisha Thompson, DWD
Laurie Haldeman, YECC/GCIT
Deitra Smith, St. John of God
Brigette Satchell, RCSJ
Victoria Carpenter, MASCEC
Dan Sulpizio, Business
Marie Rafter, GC Probation
Freeholder Heather Simmons

Visitors

Natalie Fortunato, SJ Dream Center
Josh Deaner, YECC/GCIT Student

Regina Pryor, NJLWD

Les opened the meeting at 8:15 AM
Salute the Flag
Verification of quorum was made.

A motion to approve September 11, 2019 meeting minutes was made by Tom Bianco, seconded by Wayne Love.

Special Remarks

Freeholder Simmons remarked on the SJ Workforce Collaborative meeting that was held on December 4, 2019, at RCSJ. We are started to have Dr. Houshmand and Dr. Keating work collaboratively. There has been so much done to innovate education and workforce development not only in Gloucester County but in our region. Freeholder Simmons announced she will be out on medical leave for several months.

Review & Approve WDB Policies

Emergency Transportation Policy – Michelle stated this policy gives us and our partners the ability to distribute a single emergency bus pass to people that may be stranded at the AJC.

Procedures for Reporting Fraud Policy – Michelle stated this policy came down from the State as a TEGl in 2012 but now we have to make the policy official for the Workforce Development Board. The WDB and AJC staff must report any fraud from our vendors.

Youth Incentive Policy – Michelle stated we follow this policy for granting incentives to youth enrolled in the Title I Youth program. This was a suggestion made from the monitoring report done in September 2019.

A motion to approve the 3 presented policies was made by D. Sulpizio, seconded by T. Bianco.

Guest Speaker

Gregory Wright, Assistant Principal of the Youth Education & Career Center at GCIT provided an overview of the youth program. The program provides "at-risk" young adults between ages 16-24 an alternative way to acquire their high school equivalency and be guided toward employment and/or post-secondary studies. Gregory acknowledged the dedication and hard work of Mr. Laurie Haldeman. Gregory would like the students to know when they participate in this program they are guaranteed trust, service & security. Many of the students are overcoming societal issues and the environment at the center is judgment-free. The new video about the Youth Education & Career Center was presented. Gregory introduced an active youth participant, Josh Deaner, who had a positive experience at the center and will be getting his HSE soon.

WDB Update

Michelle mentioned that the ACE Quick Path to Energy Program is again offering information sessions on January 22, January 29, & February 5 at RCSJ. She thanked everyone for attending the recent SJ Workforce Collaborative Regional Board meeting held on December 4, 2019. Michelle reminded the members to forward their 2020 calendar of community events so we can schedule so we can offer information about all the valuable services that are available.

Michelle congratulated Tom Brown from the Mid-Atlantic Career States and Education Center on his retirement. She thanked him for the work he has done working with our clients and for the WDB.

Announcements

Jeff announced Local 322 will have applications available in February 2020.

Les announced on Dec. 15 the GC Chamber of Commerce has partnered with Jim Auletto & Family for their annual Breakfast with Santa for families of need. Registration is done through non-profit agencies and should register on the Gloucester County Chamber website.

A motion for adjournment was made by D. Sulpizio, seconded by W. Love.

Respectfully submitted,

Bridget A. DiGiambattista, WDB Staff