

Capital Region Workforce Development Board

Friday, September 17, 2021 – Virtual (Zoom) Meeting Minutes

Meeting Called to Order:

- Ian Glasgow called to order the Capital Region Workforce Development Board meeting at 1:03pm on September 17, 2021 via Zoom

Roll Call:

Board Attendance: *(Members in attendance indicated with an x)*

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mary Blais, NYS Dept. of Labor | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maria Huntington, Cap. Reg. BOCES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neenah Bland, ACAP | <input type="checkbox"/> Jim Hurley, Home Instead |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paul Brady, Schenectady County DSS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Katherine Maciol, CEO |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Brazie, ACCES-VR | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nathan Mandsager, Schenectady ARC |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Graig Carbino, CapCom FCU | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elisa Martin, SCAP |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colleen Costello, Vital Vio, Inc. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joseph McDonald, Maria College |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sonya Del Peral, Nine Pin Ciderworks | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Katie Newcombe, CEG |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lee Eck, IUPAT DC-9 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Denise Padula, Alchar Printing Group |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leola Edelin, Renaissance Hotel | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phil Stenglein, SMWIA 83 (Sheet Metal Union) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sharon Gerasia, Golub Corporation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maggie Walker, Amazon |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ian Glasgow, Next Advance | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Westcott, TCI of NY LLC |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nicole Harrington, CDPHP | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sarah Wilson-Sparrow, SUNY Schenectady |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Penny Hill, HVCC | |

Board Staff Attendance: *(Members in attendance indicated with an x)*

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brian Williams, Executive Director | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amber Robbie- WIOA Fiscal Grant Recipient |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Career Center Staff Attendance: *(Members in attendance indicated with an x)*

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Bargy – Schenectady County | <input type="checkbox"/> Michael McLaughlin, Albany County |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bailey Gardiner – Schenectady County | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Raphael Tucker, City of Albany |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jonathan Jones- City of Albany | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adam Slagle, Regional Business Services/Schen |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tracy Ellis – Rensselaer County | |

Guest Attendance: *(Members in attendance indicated with an x)*

none

Approval of Minutes:

Penny Hill made a motion to approve the board minutes from the June 11th, 2021 meeting, it was seconded by Katherine Maciol. All approved, none opposed or abstained; motion carried.

Capital Region Workforce Development Board

Friday, September 17, 2021 – Virtual (Zoom) Meeting Minutes

Summer Youth Employment Program Reports:

Albany: (Jonathan Jones Reporting) Five-week program, 100 hours total. Number of applicants lower than years prior and still trying to understand lack of applicants. 503 (105 TANF) youth started on July 12th. 420 completed program and those who did not complete, found regular employment at businesses such as Huck Finn's Playland, Hoffman Car Wash, and others. Registration of program took place on an app, but had to hand in documentation in person and could ask questions. The orientation was online via YouTube and all applicants and families participated online and the required NYS sexual harassment training. Highlighted some of the 48 worksites who participated this year such as the NYS Museum, Radix Environmental Center, the Port of Albany, and Albany City agencies. On Friday's youth were paid for enrichment days which were held virtually -1 cohort I person on UAlbany campus. Enrichment gave the opportunity for youth to learn about careers and get to meet mentors. Recognition event at Bleeker Park- 206 youth attended, parents were invited, awards are given to youth, and Mayor Sheehan got dunked in a dunk tank! COVID vaccinations were also available and 13 people took advantage for their first or second dose. NYS Troopers were there to talk about career opportunities. Currently recruiting for NYS extended youth summer program (GVP OTDA Funding) that will last through December. Thank you to everyone who helped support!

Rensselaer County: (Tracy Ellis Reporting) 116 youth served. More applications from younger students. Many older youth stated wages were higher in private sector employment and were able to secure jobs there. July 6th start date. Intake was online and the orientation, NYS sexual harassment training, etc...all on Zoom. Program scheduled to end 8/6 but since funds were remaining some youth were able to remain employed at their worksites through September 3rd. 60 organizations and businesses participated as worksites. Currently recruiting for NYS extended youth summer program (GVP OTDA Funding) that will last through December. One highlight of the program that is anticipated to continue – partnered with Troy Fire Dept and HVCC to do EMT training. 4 youth enrolled and are still learning paramedic skills. They will sit for the NYS exam and become certified. Used some training dollars to cover tuition and materials for HVCC.

Schenectady County (Bailey Gardiner Reporting): 204 youth employed – all in-person, work experiences, 20+ youth secured unsubsidized employment post-program. 67 worksites (29 non-profit, 22 private-sector, 16 public/government). Interviews were held at Schenectady Works – City Mission building – social distanced. Job Coaching provided by career center year-round staff. Curriculum: Week 1: Introductions, Goal Setting, and Signatures; Week 2: Career Exploration; Week 3: Resumes and Identifying Transferable Skills; Week 4 & 5: Developing Foundational Skills; Week 6: Transition Planning & Networking. Currently in the process of creating SYEP video to highlight the program and community partnerships. Tech Valley Shuttle & CDTA provided safe, effective transportation. SEFCU provided Mad City Money (financial literacy). A Virtual WRAP Event was held at the end of the program to connect youth to work, resources, and programs using Premier Virtual. Extended SYEP (GVP OTDA Funding) to provide 64 youth an extended SYEP experience and allowed us to focus on 18+ population and create transition plans leading to sustainable wages.

Capital Region Workforce Development Board

Friday, September 17, 2021 – Virtual (Zoom) Meeting Minutes

Report from Youth & Emerging Worker Committee & WIOA funding recommendations

Presented by Nathan Mandsager (The committees report was sent out with previous board notes)

Thank you to the WIOA Youth RFP Review Committee. Committee recommendations were sent out to all Board members prior to the meeting. Albany proposals did not warrant enough applications and committee is recommending re-issuing RFP. Committee is recommending funding the following from Rensselaer and Schenectady:

Rensselaer – Arc of Rensselaer County \$153,116, Boys & Girls Club of the Capital Area \$136,884

Schenectady – Press Mojica- \$0 (not responsive), Boys & Girls Club of Schenectady \$100,703, Schenectady SEAT \$44,297

Joe McDonald made a motion to approve the funding for Rensselaer and Schenectady, it was seconded by Paul Brady. Majority in favor, none opposed or abstained; motion carried.

Maria Huntington made a motion to approve the re-issue of the youth RFP for Albany, it was seconded by Penny Hill. Majority in favor, none opposed, Mark Westcott abstained; motion carried.

Update on Board Committees:

We discussed adding committees since all members should serve on one. Many new and seasoned board members said they would be interested in being on a “Business Service Committee”. This committee would collaborate together in terms of recruitment, retention, connection back to the career centers, business needs and a comprehensive business service plan for the region. Brian Williams asked board members to reach out to him about which committee they would like to serve on, specifically Business Services.

Board Chair Report:

Executive Committee is meeting in October to review the strategic plan. Ian attended one of the new board member orientations and noted it was fantastic.

Capital Region Workforce Development Board

Friday, September 17, 2021 – Virtual (Zoom) Meeting Minutes

Executive Directors Report:

New board member orientation (1 in person and 1 virtual) was held in August for new board members who started in 2021. The orientation gave an overview of the WIOA law, the role of the WDB, and expectations of Board members. Any board member who is interested in a “refresher” is more than welcome to reach out and another one will be set up and the PowerPoint can be shared.

NYS Gun Violence Prevention Program awarded to Board and Career Centers to serve 14-24 year old youth/young adults in targeted zip codes in Albany, Schenectady, Troy. Several funding streams: OTDA Extended SYEP, OCFS Youth Development, and NYSDOL Employment. Total regional funding of over \$2.3M for training, supportive services, OJT, work experience, and more. Currently starting community conversations and focus groups with young adults.

The Board has applied for a *USDOL Dislocated Worker COVID Grant* in partnership with HVCC, SUNY Schenectady for the training of individuals in Advanced Manufacturing, Healthcare, IT. Supportive services for training/employment are a strong component in the grant to hopefully ensure success. We hope to hear this month if the proposal is successful

USDOL Pilot Career Pathways in Banking Industry - Our Board has been chosen to be one of three WDBs in the nation for pilot projects to build strategies and collaboration with banking industry. The goal of this project is to build best practices to share with WDBs across the country. Local Leadership Team meeting are being scheduled for the next month. There is no money associated with this project from USDOL, but hoping investment from the banking industry through the Community Revitalization Act could be realized.

Media and Press the Board and Career Centers highlighted and/or are quoted -

- Albany Times Union column on youth employment by Jonathan Jones
- Schenectady Gazette – article on Schenectady Summer Youth Employment
- WTEN ABC – Story on Rensselaer County Youth EMT Program
- CBS6 WRGB – Story on the ending of extended Unemployment Insurance and the Career Center’s role (Brian)
- Upcoming – WMHT PBS Future of Work series panel, new series on workforce by Times Union Business Editor (Brian)

WIOA Local Plan/Regional Plan – Have been written and submitted to NYSDOL. Waiting for approval for signatures.

Industry Roundtables – Held for Information Technology (IT) to listen to what the skills needed for entry-level hires. Future roundtables are being discussed in trucking/transportation

Partnership with Capital Region BOCES component School Districts- School district to pay for embedded career center staff into schools to work with students, counselors, staff and a coser paid back to districts from BOCES for participating. Capital Region BOCES School Board will be voting on this project next month.

Workforce Partnership Coalition – 25+ organizations who are involved in workforce development meeting regularly with a goal to break down silo and provide more comprehensive service so folks don’t need to jump

Capital Region Workforce Development Board

Friday, September 17, 2021 – Virtual (Zoom) Meeting Minutes

through so many hoops to get service or support for training. Matrix to do warm handoff in the works along with online data sharing/referral system. Identified need of referral and data sharing tool. Working on a date for October with Alliance for Better Health to see their tool – Healthy Together/Unite Us.

Capital Region Employment Alliance Mentoring Day – Brian moderated this event for jobseekers with disabilities to meet and hear from businesses and industry and set up mock interviews. Price Chopper, CVS Health, St. Peters Health Partners, Secure Scan, Tech Valley Shuttle, Good Temps Goodwill are businesses who participated along with 50 job seekers.

New Website – Went live the end of August. Already had many complements from organizations and individuals.

Other Business & Information Sharing

- Brian and Ian wanted to thank Phil Stenglein for his service on the Board and his commitment to the workforce development system and congratulate him on his retirement

Next Meeting:

- Friday, December 10th at 1pm

Meeting Adjournment:

Phil Stenglein made a motion to adjourn the meeting, it was seconded by Penny Hill. All approved, none opposed or abstained; motion carried.