



BUSINESS SERVICES

Montgomery County Workforce Investment Board September 15, 2020, 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Virtual Zoom Meeting

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Linda Ashworth, Cassie Barlow, Karen Borgert, Dave Collins, Erik Collins, Shannon Cox, Melissa Cutcher, Angelia Erbaugh, Jamie Gee, Sarah Hackenbracht, Walt Hibner, Carl Kennebrew, Beverly Knapp, Deborah Lieberman, Jeff Liu, Elizabeth Lolli, Marvene Mitchell-Cook, Carolyn Rice, Rick Wegmann, Chris Williams, Jasmine Allen, Shelley Clements

CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Karen Borgert at 8:01am.

- **Approval of minutes:** need to add Melissa Cutcher to board members present (5/13/2020). Chair Karen Borgert called the motion to approve; Second by Linda Ashworth. Co-Chair Marvene Mitchell-Cook: No new announcements
- **Area 7 Update:** Lori Geary: Not present
- **Workforce:**

Garth Mclean stated Workforce is recruiting for 2500 jobs including Crocs, L Brands and Fuyao. Covid-19 outreach: Social Media has been used and we have had over 2400 clicks or interest for our services. Erik Collins with Community and Economic Development completed an employer survey and we are now in communication with the employers and have scheduled meetings to see how we can assist them. YCS 365 Summer cohort is over. Workforce has a new addition in the form of internships; College 2 Work Program. A video was shown that consisted of three of our 6 interns. Antonio Mobley, Jalen Scott and Jalen Ruby work in a variety of sectors; communications, non-profit and dentistry. It is a great testament to their experience in the program this year. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Mobile unit on September 22 at 11am at the Omega CDC. The Mobile unit consists of a research room where people can come and create a resume, apply for jobs and more. There is space in the rear to conduct interviews. Melissa Cutcher stated Clothes that Work has considered getting a mobile unit to be able to get interview outfits out to those in need. Garth stated there are resources for nonprofits. Co-Chair Marvene Mitchell-Cook stated on the reentry side, when the applicant goes through the process, it would be a great fit.

New Direction for WIB:

Chair Karen Borgert stated the Workforce Investment Boards website needs to be updated. Chair Borgert stated her first involvement with a Workforce board was 1998 for Butler and Warren counties. The concept was created to be a one stop to work with Commissioners in the county and Job and Family Services on how money is aligned and spent in the realm of workforce and economic development. Workforce Investment Boards legislatively and practically are driven by our Commissioners. Chair Borgert stated she appreciated that we have two Commissioners on the call today. We serve at the County Commissioners' pleasure.

WIB Purpose Statement: To drive strategic alliances that advance the regions workforce initiatives and ultimately the regions vitality.

The purpose statement and the legislation, both for WIB and WIOA aligns, but she wanted to remind the board, why we meet as a group, why there are some requirements with our group and what we are advancing to do.

Comments regarding the purpose statement:

Commissioner Lieberman: We worked on the purpose statement and it is direct and to the point. Not every county has a workforce board and it's not a requirement but its been great for us to have. Its good for employers to know that we are here to help them.

Chair Karen Borgert: We are trying to look at our board membership because we had terms expiring and new interest, so we wanted to look at some of the industry sectors. Healthcare, Info Tech, Education, Transportation and Logistics, Manufacturing Aerospace, Building and Construction, Military, and Services make up the sectors that should be represented on the board. If you have someone that could represent the other sectors that are not currently represented please let myself, Commissioners, Chair Marvene or County Administrator Michael Colbert know. Cassie we would like for you to possibly wear a few hats, military, education and aerospace.

Richard Wegmann: Can we think about having some horizontal cross sections? I was wondering if it may make some sense to have a cross section matrix that looks at unskilled workers versus various categories of skilled workers and not make it too complicated. Keeping those skill levels in a broad category so that we can begin to look at more granularity with respect to the various industry sectors.

COVID-19 CARES Act Update:

Co-Chair Marvene Mitchell-Cook: informed the WIB that Montgomery County Commissioners received 92 million dollars for the CARES Act funding. Industries selected to receive assistance were Agriculture, Education, Childcare, Healthcare, Non-Profit, Small Business and Housing. \$40 million was allotted to Small Business, \$5 million for Agriculture, \$10 million for Education, \$10 million for Healthcare, \$15 million for Housing. Small businesses, that received PPE could still receive funding through CARES Act. As of today, 1609 applications have been filed, 1002 approved and 335 applications are in review or on hold. \$6.40 million has been distributed. Non-profits can be awarded up to \$100,000. We have received 123 applications, approved 72, 50 are currently in process and \$2.54 million distributed.

Education consists of school districts, can range up to \$3 million total. Focusing on technology, PPE, and supplies. We have received over 25 applications, 23 have been approved, 1 grant is in process and \$14.5 million distributed.

Housing and Rental Assistance is facilitated by Miami Valley Community Action Partnership. The requirements were the applicant had to have loss of employment due to Covid-19, starting March 1st. 303 Households assisted; Goal is to assist 1575 households; they have distributed \$642,296.

Housing and Mortgage Assistance is facilitated by Homeownership Center with County Corp. The requirements were to help those that were laid off or furloughed. Currently 157 total grants approved, 45 in process, average grant amount \$5000 and they have distributed \$785,000.

September we will launch the Utility assistance program, Healthcare programs facilitated by GDAHA, Agriculture, Daycare/Preschool providers, Homeless population, Arts, and Seniors.

Commissioner Lieberman stated any counties that has over 500,00 people got direct money from the treasurer. If we need it, we can get up to \$200 million. But one of the other things that we've been doing, through our associations, and I'm on the National Association of Counties, is lobbying hard, to try to get the Legislature or Congress to allow us to use some of that money to back fill our budget. I think you probably all know, or heard, that we already cut our budget by about \$30,000,000. We will also have major cuts so less we can get Congress to allow us to use the CARES dollars, local governments throughout the whole country and state governments are going to suffer and they've already allotted us the money, that's what's so frustrating. We could have the money, but as right now, every dollar that we have spent and will spend has to be CARES related and that's broad. Our resolution online addresses what we are doing and what we are going to do.

Commissioner Rice stated between COVID-19 and the racism, she really thinks it has been an intersection. Out of crisis comes opportunity. As much as I regret every moment of COVID-19, I do believe it has exposed issues that we have, and so I think it's up to all of us as leaders to take this opportunity to transform our communities moving forward. I think we've always done great work in this area, but these times require all of us as leaders, and there's even citizens in the community to do more to step it up. It's exposed the real issues that have been there for centuries, and so I consider it a real honor and privilege to be serving in a critical time like this to make sure that we do the right things. So, I know this board will do the right things in the areas that workforce, racism, and Covid-19 all intersect. We have an opportunity to really drive things forward to get us through the crisis, but to a better place as a community and for our citizens moving forward well past the time any of us are still serving.

Racism:

Geraldine Pegues- Will present during the November 18, 2020 meeting.

Board Member Comments:

Jeff Liu: Fuyao had to shut down in March. We resumed opening in August. There is a labor shortage. We temperature check all employees daily and do deep cleaning. We must use this crisis and turn it into an opportunity.

Beverly Knapp: Kettering Health Network has benefitted from the community's support. The team is looking to reinvent the services we provide based on the need of the community. We think about 16,000 people that we interface with from an employee perspective, is really challenged a morphing from an online perspective. You know, just meetings and working from home. So, I think we really have created some good collaborations in the community, and I believe we've also created some amazing patient experiences as well.

Sarah Hackenbracht: It has been outstanding with the collaboration and cooperation between GDAHA and the community. Our HR Directors committee meet biweekly to share the real time employee impact, not just from those employees who have been furloughed, but bringing them back and then some of those to transition into new remote environments.

Chair Karen Borgert: Next meeting we will be dealing with the alignment of the industry sectors as well as Racism. Next meeting is November 18, 2020.

Happy Birthday Commissioner Lieberman

Meeting adjourned at 9:30am