

Joint Burlington County Workforce Development Board and EAP Meeting Minutes

Location: Rowan College at Burlington County

Votta Hall, Room 248

900 College Circle

Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

Meeting Date: Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Scheduled Time: 8:00-9:30 am

Attendees:

Anna Payanzo Cotton – RCBC

Kelly West – Workforce Development Board

Dr. Michael Cioce – RCBC

John Miller – RCBC

Jeff Keller – Federal Bureau of Prisons

Leah Arter – RCBC

Dave Wyche – Economic Development

Randy Hamilton – Smith & Solomon

Zahirah Sabir – RCBC

Carl Donato, Jr. – Wawa

Daryl Minus-Vincent – B.C. Superintendent of Schools

Dan Ruotolo - Ruotolo Spewak & Co.

Dr. Christopher Nagy – BCIT/BCSSSD

Christopher Gunter - RCBC

Tom Howell – Taylor, Wiseman & Taylor

Shirla Simpson – B.C. Human Services

Felice Tietz – RCBC

Jesus Arestirado – America Works

June Sernak – RCBC

Rhonda Jordan - Virtua

Dr. Donna Vandergrift – RCBC

Stephanie Rudd (recorder) – RCBC

- **Call to Order – Anna Payanzo Cotton**

Anna Payanzo Cotton called the Workforce Development Board Meeting to order at 8:12 am and thanked the attendees for coming.

- **Introductions**

All in attendance made introductions. Anna introduced newly appointed RCBC President Dr. Michael Cioce. Dr. Cioce thanked Anna, Kelly and Leah for their continued work in the WDI.

- **Reading of the Sunshine Law – Stephanie Rudd**

- **Business and Industry Leaders Updates**

Wawa

Carl Donato said that Wawa recently held their end of the year meeting. Carl has been in contact with Barbara Weir regarding having Wawa on campus the 2nd Tuesday of every

month in 2019. The event would take place between 11:00 am-2:00 pm and students would have the opportunity to meet Wawa employees, get information and possibly resume' tips. Carl said they just opened two new stores in Cinnaminson, NJ. Wawa is planning on opening 62 more stores in 2019. They also plan on building more of the "Legacy" stores which do not include the gas station. Wawa is working on a 3,000 foot store model for college campuses, and also a less "intrusive" store located in neighborhoods. 6th and Chestnut Street store in Philadelphia will be opening on 12/14/18 and is the largest Wawa (it contains a café).

Engineering – Taylor, Wiseman & Taylor

Tom Howell stated they hired 10 new people in 2018. Four individuals retired this year with an average length of employ of 38 years. Business has been slower in the private sector. The home building sector is weak.

Transportation – Smith & Solomon

Randy Hamilton said that Smith & Solomon now has eight locations in New Jersey and three in Chicago. People are still interested in hiring CDL drivers and there is still a shortage of drivers. The average age of their students is mid 30's. There are more part-time students. Many companies are willing to hire right out of training school due to the high demand for CDL drivers. 90 days is adequate experience for insurance purposes.

Accounting - Ruotolo Spewak & Company

Dan Ruotolo stated data analytics is expanding and digital accounting is taking over (bookkeeping is out). Ruotolo & Spewak has a partnership with the YALE School (kids with disabilities). Eleven of 16 students from the YALE School are getting a paid internship. Their skill set is great for digital accounting.

Bureau of Prisons

Jeff Keller stated Congress allocated money for The FIRST STEP Act (H.R.5682), criminal justice reform at the Federal prison level. There are many positions open at the Federal prison and people can apply from all over the region. They have hired 14 new officers and plan on hiring 4 more next week. More individuals are retiring, creating spots for upward growth and new openings.

John mentioned that at the GSETA Annual Workforce Development Conference held in October, Jeff Keller was honored as the Public Service Award Winner for 2018.

Virtua

Rhonda Jordan stated that Virtua will be closing the Washington Township location of the Wellness Spa. Many of these employees will be transitioning to the Rizzieri Spa. The Moorestown campus is strong. Virtua opened the Samson Cancer Center in Moorestown in October. Virtua increased their minimum employee wage to \$15.15 per hour. This increase should help with recruitment of new employees. They also won Best Place to Work in the Delaware Valley by the Philadelphia Business Journal. Virtua recently acquired Our Lady of Lourdes in Camden and Burlington.

- **BCIT Presentation by Dr. Nagy**

BCIT Mission: “In education our mission, our purpose, our focus is on preparing each student for a tomorrow that does not yet exist.”

- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) programs have led to STEAM, which includes Art, and now STREAM to include Reading. There is a new literacy program in effect at BCIT. Dr. Nagy referenced Erik Qualman “Socialnomics 2018”. He is considered the “guru of social media”. Qualman states business will not exist without social media. Humans have the attention span of 7 seconds while goldfish have one of 8 seconds. Dr. Nagy has a podcast called “Leadership Sparks” with 70,000 followers.
- See attached for Dr. Nagy’s PowerPoint.

- **American Job Center - Jesus Arestirado**

- See attached for summary of AJC activities.

- **President Cioce**

- Collective action will create success.
- Governor Murphy believes in community colleges and has invested into piloting a program for “free” community college. 13 of 19 community colleges will be offering this pilot in the spring 2019.

- **WDI Updates**

- Kelly West

- Grants:

- – Impaq/Maher grant to be awarded to one WDB in New Jersey and one in Maryland.

- Dr. Nagy made the motion, Jeff Keller seconded a motion for the BCWDB to reply to the grant opportunity.

- Zahirah Sabir

- – Summarized the current landscape of grants held by RCBC and the WDI.
 - – 27 active grants
 - – Currently \$4.1 million in active grants

- **Aspire Youth** – Curtis Meyers

- – Youth Sub-Committee met on 11/29/18.
 - – There are currently 8 members. If anyone is interested in participating, please contact Curtis or Zahirah.
 - – Next meeting is 1/24/19 from 8:00-9:00 am.

- **Adjournment**

- Anna Payanzo-Cotton adjourned the meeting at 9:20 am.