

**Southern Maryland Workforce Development Board Meeting
Via Microsoft TEAMS Meeting
December 9, 2021**

Minutes

Members Present: Michelle Nicholson, Robin Cullers, Marcia Keeth, Patti Meszaros, Michelle Stewart, Carrie Akins, Marcia Chase, Alan Crawley, Elaine T. Hardee, Tracy Latham, Christy Lombardi, Brian Miller, Dr. Maureen Murphy, Cindy Rauner, Mike Scott, Doris Cammack-Spencer, Stephanie Witte, Michael E. Young

Members Absent: Kelly Williams, Dr. Christine L. Bergmark, Stacey Cook, Pennie Drinkard, Seth Erlin, Michael Ghosh, Therese Wolf

Guests Present: Ken Lemberg, Deputy Director Governor's Workforce Development Board

Staff Present: Ruthy Davis, Melinda Bowling, Charmain Carey, Jacklyn Chembars, Belinda Denton, Sandy Faucheux, Greg Holtz, Letita Pinkney-Cogborn, Ashley Raley, Daryl Rice, Yvette Turner, Zoe Walker, Beth Wells, Roxanne White-Williams

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 am by Michelle Nicholson, Chair.

WELCOME AND ROLL CALL

Michelle Nicholson opened the meeting with a warm welcome and introduction of attendees.

MISSION MOMENT

Stephanie Witte, President, Witte Hospitality 3:23, Inc., Owner/Operator, Chick-fil-A @ First Colony Center provided a success story from working with Daryl Rice and the TCCSMD Youth Program. With Daryl's assistance, Stephanie was able to hire two youth program participants who are a great asset to her team. Daryl also provided details and described the Work Based Learning program offered through TCCSMD Youth Program. This program allows an employer to have a youth participant (ages 18-24) work for them, at no cost to the employer, with the end goal of the employer hiring the employee.

BUSINESS

- A quorum was established.
- A motion to approve the minutes from the September 9, 2021. Michelle Stewart indicated that she was not in attendance at the September meeting. A motion to approve corrected to indicate Michelle was not in attendance was made by Dr. Maureen Murphy, seconded by Marcia Keith, and carried.
- A motion to approve the consent agenda documents was made by Dr. Maureen Murphy, seconded by Marcia Keith and carried.

WORKFORCE BUDGET UPDATE

Melinda Bowling provided an update on the budget.

SOMD JOBSOURCE OUTREACH CAMPAIGN

Jackie Chembars informed the group of the new Outreach Campaign that has been stood up by TCCSMD staff who have volunteered to be part of the campaign. Jackie is Chair and Daryl Rice is co-chair. The main goal of the outreach campaign is to increase awareness of the services offered through the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland and engage more participants.

WIOA PARTNER CONVENING GROUP UPDATE

Sandy Fauchaux provided an update on the partner convening meetings. Monthly Leadership meetings from the Core Partners continue and the front-line teams are being involved as well. A core partner informational meeting was convened in October with over 70 attendees. Front Line Team Representatives from each partner have also been chosen and are meeting to as liaisons between the leadership and the front-line teams. Meetings will be convened as the teams deem necessary moving forward. A live demo of the newly created partner website was also provided. The website serves as a valuable resource for the core partners.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) UPDATE

Ashely Raley introduced the ARPA Team along with an update on the program. A top priority for the team is outreach, both in person and virtually. The team will be present at upcoming College of Southern Maryland Fairs, local National Nights Out and other community events. Virtual informational sessions are also being held weekly.

“AN UNPRECEDENTED YEAR IN REVIEW”

The workforce team created and shared a video highlighting the accomplishments throughout the past year. Despite pivoting to a virtual environment amid the pandemic, the TCCSMD workforce team successfully adapted to this new normal and continue to provide services to the Southern Maryland Region.

Public Comment & Announcements:

Carrie Akins, Calvert Career & Technology Academy, announced they are looking for partners willing to take on youth apprentices. Please contact her should you be interested.

Doris Cammack-Spencer announced she will be retiring from the Southern Maryland Minority Chamber in the capacity of President. She will remain with SMMC and will remain a member of the Southern Maryland Workforce Development Board.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Maureen Murphy, seconded by Marcia Keith, and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 10:08 am.