

Minutes

Central Virginia Workforce Board meeting

June 22, 2021

In-Person and Electronic participation

University of Lynchburg

Present

Staff Present

Gary Christie
Lori Cumbo
Tonya Hengeli
Rosalie Majerus
Tim Saunders

Welcome and Call to Order

Chair Nat Marshall welcomed the committee and asked members to introduce themselves. Members participated both in person and electronically.

Citizen Comments

The Chair invited public comment. There were none.

Approval of the Minutes of the April 13, 2021 meeting

Upon a motion by William Coleman, seconded by John Capps, the minutes from the April 13, 2021 meeting were approved unanimously.

Report of the Search Committee

Chairman Nat Marshall thanked the members of the Search Committee:

John Capps
Scott Francis
Bobby Johnson
Christine Kennedy
Ron Lovelace
Cheryl Giggetts
Sierra Phillips
Sterling Wilder

Mr. Marshall noted we received over 50 applications, screened to 10 and interviewed 6. The interviewees were well qualified, highly thought of, and it was a difficult decision including reference checks.

The Chair reported that it is the unanimous recommendation of the Search Committee to hire Traci Blido as the Board's Workforce Development Director.

Upon a motion by John Capps, seconded by Lauren Anderson, the Board accepted Traci's resignation as a Board Member.

Upon a motion by John Capps, seconded by Anthony Cardoza, the Board unanimously ratified the recommendation of the Search committee and offered the Workforce Development Director position to Traci Blido effective July 1, 2021.

The Chair welcomed Traci and invited her to the podium.

Traci said that she was excited to be back in a regional role and ready to take on the challenge of regional workforce development. A priority of the Workforce program is to meet the needs of industry and her economic development background will help. This is a great region with great companies.

Her priorities will include building education platforms to help workers learn new skills and preparing the pipeline of new talent. Traci noted that we have a good story to tell.

Traci noted three areas of focus for the board and staff:

1. Childcare, which has been amplified by the pandemic. This will include providing information about new programs like subsidies to parents and child care operators
2. Re-skilling and New skilling
3. Equity and diversity at all levels to bread down barriers

Traci said that we will look at existing programs to see how we can increase services. We will work to develop a communications plan to reach out to businesses, and we will work with Partner organizations to expand opportunities available to train and support the workforce.

2021-2022 Budget and Year to Date report

Rosalie Majerus reviewed Year to Date Expenses and note:

1. Rent at the Career Center is over budget because it includes several years of back rent payments during this year
2. Pandemic has made it hard to spend and provide services at our traditional pace
3. The Economic Equity Grant and Wagner Peyser contract are being completed.

For 21-22, we will have about \$54,000 revenue more than the previous year. We will also receive \$42,250 from Park View mission.

Upon a motion by Anthony Cardoza, seconded by John Capps, the 2021-2022 budget of \$1,801,641.98 was unanimously approved by the board.

Park View Missions Agreement

Keith Cook of HumanKind informed the Board about a contract with Park View Mission which has been approved previously by the Executive Committee. Keith reported that Susan Mills has been hired by HumanKind to serve as a Life Skills Coordinator and that the Workforce Board and Park View Missions will each put \$25,000 toward the cost of the position. Park View Missions will also contribute funds to a Career Essentials Instructor and Career Essentials class fees.

The Board received the information.

Update from Tim Saunders, Business Engagement and Outreach Coordinator

Update from Gary Christie, CVPDC Executive Director

Gary thanked the Search Committee and Workforce Board staff for their work during this transition period.

He noted the next meeting of July 13 would be to address issues for the State in our local plan which was approved in March 2021. We will conduct a SWOT analysis and look how to better engage the Board in the work of the organization.

Gary also noted that the Governor's Declaration of Emergency will end June 30 and that will change our use of electronic meetings. Gary referred to the agenda packet to find a list of conditions and frequencies that Board members could use the electronic meeting process some are in the bylaws, others will have to be added. After July 1, members will need to be in person to count to a quorum or to vote except by the rules indicated.

Other business

Regional Alliance Regional Workforce Summit, July 27, 8:30 a.m.

Lynchburg Area Sports day, Saturday, June 26 for grades 3-6.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned.