

**ANNUAL MEETING
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 27, 2018**

The Greater Peninsula Workforce Development Board (GPWDB) Annual Meeting was held on September 27, 2018, at the Holiday Inn, Newport News - City Center. The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Dr. John Olson, at 12:10 p.m. See Attachment 1 for a list of attendees.

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Dr. Olson welcomed everyone and recognized special guests, including the membership of the Greater Peninsula Workforce Development Consortium; Ms. Delcino Miles, Chair and Mr. Shawn Avery, President/CEO, Hampton Roads Workforce Council (HRWC); and Ms. Sara Dunnigan, Executive Director, Virginia Board of Workforce Development. Also recognized were the members of the Board's Administrative Staff and the Virginia Career Works, Hampton Center Staff.

Dr. Olson recognized Mr. Bill Mann, Executive Director, GPWDB, and thanked him for his recent work guiding the Board and its staff through a reorganization and transition designed to streamline the agency to better utilize the resources at its disposal while continuing to deliver high quality services to its employer and job seeker customers. Dr. Olson also expressed his appreciation to the staff, who during this same period implemented a new brand name and logo, designed to increase the Board's name recognition, particularly within the employer community and its identity as the "go to organization" for diverse, high quality workforce services.

Along these lines Dr. Olson reflected on the Board's vision and mission statements noting their relevance to the strategies and functional partnerships needed to realize those workforce development goals and outcomes essential to achieving economic prosperity within our region. To illustrate his point, Dr. Olson, invoking a "moment of Zen," asked everyone to extend one hand and move it as if to make a clapping sound. Silence followed. He then invited everyone to turn to someone to their left or right and move their hands together to make a clapping sound. Applause followed. Dr. Olson noted that the point of this exercise was to demonstrate that, like much in life, more can be accomplished when we work in partnership with others and that this was especially true in the workforce development arena.

Dr. Olson concluded his opening remarks, introducing Mr. Collin McDowell from Greg Garrett Realty, Business Sponsor for the GPWDB Annual Meeting. Speaking on behalf of Mr. Greg Garrett who was unable to attend the day's event, Mr. McDowell expressed his appreciation to the Board for their hard work in support of local workforce development programs and for the opportunity to sponsor today's meeting.

RECOGNITION AND SERVICE AWARD

Following lunch, Dr. Olson recognized and invited to the podium departing GPWDB Vice-Chair, Mr. Mark Stefanick. Dr. Olson noted that during his time on the board, Mr. Stefanick had been his "go to" person for counsel, advice and a friendly push, when needed. While on the Board Mr. Stefanick was an active member of the Finance and Strategic Planning Committee and served on other various ad hoc workgroups. In recognition of his service, Dr. Olson presented Mr. Stefanick with a plaque noting his years of service to the board in support of local workforce development programs and activities.

Mr. Stefanick thanked Dr. Olson and spoke to the membership, reflecting on his 10 years of service as a member of the board. He said that over this period he had learned much about non-profit operations, the importance of partnerships, and the eccentricities of government funding. He expressed his appreciation to Ferguson Enterprises for allowing him to serve as their representative to the Board and concluded his remarks noting that the Board had been through a lot of changes, but that these changes had made it stronger and more able to adapt to new circumstances and accomplish even greater outcomes.

CEREMONIAL SIGNING OF REGIONAL RESOLUTION

Proceeding with the program Mr. Mann invited Mr. Avery to join him at the podium to introduce a resolution, approved by both the Greater Peninsula and Hampton Roads Workforce Boards to establish the Southeastern Virginia Regional Workforce Collaborative whose purpose was to initiate an integrated business engagement strategy to meet the needs of employers in the region for a highly skilled, credentialed workforce. A copy of the resolution is included as Attachment 2.

Mr. Mann noted that he along with Dr. Olson, Mr. Avery, and Ms. Miles had been working on this initiative since last June, and that today's signing ceremony was an important step toward ushering in a new era of cooperation between the local boards to meet the needs of employers within their region. While both boards would retain their independent status and responsibility for the delivery of workforce services within their specific local workforce development areas, this resolution expressed their recognition that employers hired workers from across jurisdictional and geographic lines, and that it was incumbent upon the public workforce system to formally come together to provide employers with a single point of contact for workforce services.

Mr. Avery noted that this new relationship was being built on a strong foundation of past collaborative efforts between the two boards and their staffs. He also suggested that this initiative would help serve the need of the local boards to attract new private sector members and encourage private sector investments in the work of the boards. Mr. Avery commented that this resolution was the first of its kind and could become a new model for regional collaboration. With that, Mr. Mann and Mr. Avery proceeded to read the provisions of the resolution while Dr. Olson and Ms. Miles signed the document on behalf of their respective boards.

Mr. Mann proceeded to invite Ms. Dunnigan to the podium to say a few words from the state's perspective on this initiative. Ms. Dunnigan noted how excited she was to see this collaboration and that it was the first of its kind in Virginia between two local areas. Ms. Dunnigan continued noting that bringing something of this nature to fruition entailed a lot of hard work and good will between the two boards and that the state was very supportive of this endeavor and would be following the Collaborative's progress in the days ahead. She applauded the two boards for taking such a bold step forward, noting that this effort could serve as a new model for the delivery of business services.

ANNUAL REPORT

Returning to the podium Dr. Olson called everyone's attention to the Program Year 2017 Annual Report. He noted that this year's presentation of the report was going to be different from past years. Instead of reviewing the typical talking points about funding and participant statistics, he would let everyone read about that on their own and would instead invite two individuals to the podium, one a former participant and the other an employer both of whom had been served, to share their experiences and success stories.

The first, a former participant, Mr. Tracey Coles shared a truly emotional story concerning the barriers he had to overcome to complete his training to get a commercial driver's license and go from being an unemployed to a new business owner. He thanked everyone who helped people like himself to overcome life's challenges and become a successful tax paying citizen and business owner. He thanked all the staff at

Virginia Career Works, Hampton Center, especially Ms. Wanda Boulden-White, for all their hard work in helping him through the workforce training program.

Next at the podium was Mr. Dudley Harris, Bay Electric, who spoke about how great the program was for him as an employer. He noted his previous involvement with workforce development and apprenticeship programs and how they were instrumental in helping him find the skilled workers he needed to insure the economic success of his business. He also singled out for recognition a member of the Virginia Career Works, Hampton Center Staff, Ms. Chris Rogan for the tremendous help she had provided his business. Through the program Bay Electric had been able to hire four individuals to go into their apprenticeship program over the last six months. Mr. Harris noted that each of the apprentices were making excellent progress had received wage increases of 17% to 30% commensurate with their skill gains.

INTRODUCTION OF THE LUNCHEON GUEST SPEAKER

Mr. Mann returned to the podium to introduce the day's guest speaker, Mr. Joseph Carbone, President/CEO, The WorkPlace, from Bridgeport Connecticut. The WorkPlace was recently awarded the contract to serve as the Greater Peninsula Workforce Development Board's One-Stop Operator. This contract award was based in part by the fact that Mr. Mann was acquainted with the organization and knew Mr. Carbone's outstanding reputation as a nationally recognized workforce development leader.

Having served as The Workplace's President/CEO since 1996, Mr. Mann reviewed Mr. Carbone's history creating innovative workforce programs. His entrepreneurial approach to workforce development has expanded his agency's capacity to assist underserved populations, including workers with disabilities, at risk youth and veterans. In response to the devastating impact of the 2008 recession, The WorkPlace launched a program entitled Platform to Employment (P2E) to assist the long-term unemployed return to work. The program's outstanding success achieving this goal was the subject of a 60 Minutes news broadcast and has been replicated across the country. Mr. Mann welcomed Mr. Carbone to the podium.

Mr. Carbone thanked Mr. Mann for his introduction, noting that he had known Mr. Mann for the past 15 plus years and that the primary reason The WorkPlace had submitted a bid in response to the Peninsula Board's One-Stop Operator RFP, was because of his interest in working with an organization, that had an excellent track record, good partnerships, and capable, innovative leadership. Mr. Carbone noted that today's signing of the Resolution establishing the Southeastern Virginia Regional Workforce Collaborative reaffirmed his opinion of the Peninsula's operations.

He continued his remarks, using a PowerPoint presentation to describe how the WorkPlace was organized and its entrepreneurial approach to the delivery of workforce services drawing primarily upon private funds and corporate contributions to support their different programs. At the end of his remarks he took time to respond to questions and was presented with a gift of appreciation by Dr. Olson.

ADJOURNMENT

The program concluded at 1:30 p.m. with closing remarks from Dr. Olson who thanked everyone for attending.

Respectfully Submitted,

William H. Mann, Jr.
Secretary

Attachments

GREATER PENINSULA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
The premier business centric workforce solutions catalyst.

September 27, 2018
ANNUAL MEETING
ATTENDANCE RECORD

GPWDB MEMBERS PRESENT

Rachel Ambrose	Denbigh Learning Center
Mike Briley	Virginia Peninsula Central Labor Council
Rhonda Bunn	Canon Virginia, Inc.
Donna Crittenden-Barton	Virginia Employment Commission
Dr. John T. Dever	Thomas Nelson Community College
Honorable Herbert Green, Jr.	Poquoson City Council
Honorable James Icenhour	James City County Board of Supervisors
Whitney Lester	Versability Resources, Inc.
Honorable Ted Maslin	Williamsburg City Council
John Meyer	SynEnergy Inc.
Dr. John Olson	ECPI University
Casey Roberts	New Horizons Regional Education Center
Mark Stefanick	Ferguson Enterprises Inc.
Dale Stone	Walmart Distribution Center
Honorable Tina Vick	Newport News City Council
Dr. Vince Warren	Newport News Shipbuilding
Honorable Jeff Wassmer	York County Board of Supervisors
Albert Welcher	Point Transitions LLC

GPWDB MEMBERS ABSENT

Andrea Arnett	Sentara Healthcare System
Joseph C. Barto, III	TMG
Honorable Phillip Bazzani	Gloucester County Board of Supervisors
Honorable Melanie Rapp Beale	Dominion Energy
Verna Chamberliss	United Steelworkers – Local 8888
Jeffrey Clemons	PNC Bank
Gerald Dix	York River Electric, Inc.
Dr. Rex Evans	AARP Foundation
Greg Garrett	Greg Garrett Realty
Honorable James Gray	Hampton City Council
Ronald Jackson	Hampton Redevelopment and Housing Authority
Robert McKenna	Virginia Peninsula Chamber of Commerce
Dr. Robin Nelhuebel	Riverside College of Health Careers
Josie Pearson	Science Systems and Applications, Inc.
Kimberly Shepard	Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services
Ken Taylor	W. M. Jordan Company, Inc.
Thomas Tingle	Guernsey Tingle Architects
Rick Weddle	Hampton Roads Economic Development Alliance
Mary Williams	1 st Advantage Federal Credit Union

LEO STAFF REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Alan Archer	City of Newport News
Sherri Newcomb	York County
Sherry Spring	Gloucester County
Peter Walentisch	City of Williamsburg
Randall Wheeler	City of Poquoson

LEO STAFF REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT

Barbara Watson	James City County
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GUESTS

Shawn Avery
Michelle Barnes
Danny Barto
LaTanya Blair
Wendy Bright
Juanita Bullock
Joseph C. Carbone
Tracy Coles
Steve Cook
Pam Croom
Sara Dunnigan
Melissa Edmonds
Dr. Susan English
Teri Francis
Kasia Grezelkowski
Dudley Harris
Sandra Hespe
Larry Horne
Tara Johnson
Amy Jordan
Dr. Kim Luckes
Collin McDowell
Delceno Miles
Peggy Murvin
Keisha Pexton
Minister Andrea Porter
Jimmy Price
Amber Richey
Gail Roberts-House
Candice Sayre
Kate Sipes
Dawna Thompson
Curtis Wray
Honorable Benming Zhang

Hampton Roads Workforce Council
Hampton Redevelopment and Housing Authority
TMG
Newport News Public Library
Newport News South Morrison Library
Newport News Department of Human Services
The WorkPlace
Former WIOA Participant
Hampton Roads Workforce Council
Hampton Economic Development
Governor's Office and Virginia Board of Workforce Development
Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services
Thomas Nelson Community College
Hampton Roads Community Action Program
Versability Resources
Bay Electric Co., Inc.
York County Public Schools
Newport News Shipbuilding
Newport News Redevelopment and Housing Authority
James City County Economic Development
Hampton University, University College
Greg Garrett Realty
Hampton Roads Workforce Council, Workforce Development Board
Newport News Sherriff's Office
Newport News Shipbuilding
Sixth Mt. Zion Baptist Temple
Virginia Employment Commission
York County Head Start
Open Door Full Gospel Baptist
ECPI University
James City County Economic Development
Newport News Department of Human Services
Virginia Employment Commission
Williamsburg City Council

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Rita Bond
Gary Butler
Grace Collins
Cathy Ellis
William H. Mann, Jr.
Terri Partain
Shannon Trochuck

Administrative Office Manager
Deputy Director
Office Assistant/Account Clerk
Executive Support Specialist
Executive Director
Accountant
Program Support Manager

PROGRAM STAFF

Wanda Boulden-White
Veatryce Brown
Eveann-Shay Claxton
Tecia Cogdell
Diana Cordero
Angela Sullivan Harris
Valencia Huggins
Travis Johnson
Teig Lesko
Lourdes Malave
Sandy Muth
Tonya Oglesby
Christine Rogan
Kimberly Sanders

Senior Career Planner, VCW – Greater Peninsula Region
Career Advisor, VCW – Greater Peninsula Region
Career Planner, VCW – Greater Peninsula Region
Career Planner, VCW – Greater Peninsula Region
Business Services Career Planner, VCW – Greater Peninsula Region
Program Manager, VCW – Greater Peninsula Region
Program Manager, Youth Workforce Center
In-School Program Transition Coach, Youth Workforce Center
Intern, Youth Workforce Center
Business Services Coordinator II, VCW – Greater Peninsula Region
Eligibility Specialist/Office Manager, Youth Workforce Center
In-School Case Manager, Youth Workforce Center
Work-Based Training Coordinator, VCW – Greater Peninsula Region
Out-of-School Recruiter/Case Manager, Youth Workforce Center

Sharnya Smith

Karla Stallworth
Jasmine Sutherlin
Lisa Taylor

Workforce Development Community Coordinator, VCW – Greater Peninsula
Region

Out-of-School Recruiter/Case Manager, Youth Workforce Center
Career Pathways for Individuals with Disabilities Coordinator, VCW – Greater Pen. Region
Community Relations & Business Services Coordinator, VCW – Greater Peninsula Region