



Workforce Development Board of Sullivan, Inc.

Robert Green, Chair
Laura Quigley, Executive Director

Minutes September, 12, 2023 - Full Board Meeting

Members Attending: Robert Green- Board Chairman, Jacob Lerner – Board Vice Chairman, Jim Boxberger, Denise Burgio, Matthew Bliedernich, Heather Brown, Olga Campos, Dawn Ciorari, Stacy Cohen, Nicole Congelosi, Dr. Casey Crabill, Robert Dufour, Loreen Gebelein, Christine Knickerbocker, Tom O’Connell, Joan Patterson, Richard Riseling, Jaime Schmeiser, Chris Schmidt.

Others Attending: Laura Quigley- WDB, Executive Director, Jennifer Wrage, SUNY Sullivan, Krista Berger, CWD/ Youth Workforce Coordinator, LaQuesha Matthews-Reed, ACCES-VR Employment, Sharon Ferber, Division of Community Resources, Administrative Assistant

This meeting called to order at 8:03am. Quorum is met with 19 voting members present.

Board Business:

1. Approval of February 14, 2022 minutes.

Motion: Jaime Schmeiser, Second: Jim Boxberger; All in Favor

2. Director’s Report Highlights – Laura Quigley

- ✓ The Local Plan modification was submitted to and approved by NYSDOL. There were no changes.
- ✓ There were updates to the Youth Services list which was submitted and approved.
- ✓ The Regional Plan was updated by the Directors and submitted to NYSDOL.
- ✓ The Youth Internship Program will start in September. The program is under the Division of Community Resource’s Youth Bureau. The internship program is a partnership with the Chamber of Commerce and the schools. We have Monticello, Liberty and Sullivan West high schools participating. Youth will go through a work readiness type training and then will be placed in paid internships for 120 hours.
- ✓ Last year the Youth Bureau brought 10 students from Monticello school district to a Thursday Legislative committee meeting. The students had a meeting afterwards with Legislators, the County Manager and the County Attorney. This year 50 students from Sullivan West will have the same opportunity. The invitation has been extended to all the school districts to promote civics education and awareness of how local government works.
- ✓ The Move Sullivan transit expansion is going very well. The second quarter ridership was 34% higher than the first quarter. The paratransit service was 59% higher in the second quarter over the first quarter.
- ✓ Sullivan County unemployment rate for July 2023 was 2.7% down from 3.3% in July of 2022.

- ✓ Laura reviewed the article that was part of the Board meeting material on the different generations that are in the workforce. There are currently 6 generations in the workforce. There was discussion on the impact of the different generations on the work environment.

3. One Stop Operator Report– Loreen Gebelein

- ✓ Traffic at the Career Center remains steady with 466 clients served in June, 422 served in July and 546 served in August. Our Social Media has 785 followers. A Catalog of Services, Unite Us - a county referral system, a QR code, a digital advertising, public announcement TV from Community Services and a Naloxbox are all in the process of being brought to the Career Center. The youth services webpage is being updated to be more attractive to the younger generations.
- ✓ In-house recruitments for September are County of Sullivan, NYS DOCS and Adapt of the Hudson Valley on September 19 and Rolling V, Catholic Charities and Pinpoint Personnel on September 25. CWD will assist DV Job Corps on September 27 with program recruitment. The CWD is currently hiring for an Employment and Training Specialist.
- ✓ Currently under two audits, fiscal and program. The Career Center Plan was reviewed and updated with suggested changes.
- ✓ The CWD is under contract with Work Readiness LLC and met with Liberty School district to recruit Juniors and Seniors for an after-school program to become work ready. Recruitment will start in November with the hope of beginning in February.
- ✓ The CWD is currently contracting with LVA for GED and tutoring and with Kathleen Christie for one on one mental health services. Contracting with Bold Gold Media for Digital Marketing, Geo fencing and Geo Targeting. The CWD working on developing programs for Career Readiness Training and staff retention for businesses.
- ✓ Starting September 18 training for CDL A and CDL B are being offered at SUNY Sullivan thru Ancora. The CWD will assist with recruitment.
- ✓ The Construction trade pilot program ended with 4 graduates starting as apprentices and one graduated to a better position. Pending approval, a Certified Welding course will be provided through BOCES, starting on October 10 through December 21. The classes will run on Tuesday's and Thursday from 5:30pm to 9:30pm. Class size will be limited to thirteen. Ms. Quigley would like to recognize and thank the Sullivan County Legislature for their support with the Trade Programs.

4. Board Discussion- Workforce Development Board of Sullivan Inc. Strategic Plan.

Jacob Lerner gave an overview of the 3 Board groups that have all met once. They are focused on Adults, Youth and Small Business yet they all overlap at certain points. He reviewed the overall intent and stressed that they have to look at where the system can have the most impact. There is a number of programs and services and we need to make sure we can develop metrics to measure success and identify opportunities.

5. Board Education – Summer Youth Employment Program – Krista Berger, Youth Employment Coordinator. Krista presented a power-point/video presentation on the successful 2023 SYEP.

Mr. Green adjourned the meeting at 9:00AM.

Motion: Joan Patterson

Seconded: Jim Boxberger

All in Favor – meeting adjourned.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 12, 2023.