



Workforce Development Board of Sullivan, Inc.

Robert Green, Chair
Laura Quigley, Executive Director

Minutes May 9, 2023 - Full Board Meeting

Members Attending: Robert Green- Board Chairman, Jacob Lerner – Board Vice Chairman, Claire Taggart- Board Secretary, Dory Alport- Board Treasurer, Gene Kelly – Board Member At Large, Jim Boxberger, Denise Burgio, Matthew Bliefenich, Heather Brown, Dawn Ciorari, Robert Dufour, Loreen Gebelein, Tom O’Connell, Richard Riseling.

Others Attending: Laura Quigley- WDB/ Executive Director, Jennifer Wrage-SUNY - Sullivan, Nicole Congelosi – NYSDOL, Sharon Ferber- Division of Community Resources/Administrative Assistant

This meeting called to order at 8:00am. Quorum is met.

Board Business:

1. Approval of February 14, 2022 minutes.

Motion: Claire Taggart, Second: Jacob Lerner; All in Favor

2. Director’s Report Highlights – Laura Quigley

- ✓ The Request for Proposal (RFP) issued on March 10, 2023 under the Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) for in-school and out-of-school youth services was due back by April 24, 2023. There were no responses. Therefore, we will look to contract with providers for specific services and/or provide the service through the Center for Workforce Development (CWD).
- ✓ The new Youth Internship Coordinator started. This position is under the Youth Bureau. The internships are being developed in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce.
- ✓ The Move Sullivan transit expansion is going very well. We are averaging about 308 riders per day. Further expansion possibilities include larger buses for some of the routes, a shuttle service between routes, and expanding hours and weekends.
- ✓ Garnet Health was awarded a planning grant from US Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Rural Health Network to create a comprehensive plan to increase healthcare access to county residents, especially those who do not have insurance coverage. The plan would develop healthcare transportation solutions that would align with Move Sullivan and other county transportation efforts. A plan is expected to be completed by July.
- ✓ Sullivan County has received it’s WIOA allocation funding that starts on July 1st. The overall increase was 5%.
- ✓ Sullivan County unemployment rate for March 2023 was 3.2% down from 3.7% in March of 2022.

3. One Stop Operator Report– Loreen Gebelein

- ✓ Traffic at the Career Center remains steady with 341 clients served in February, 422 served in March and 378 served in April.
- ✓ Annual Job Fair was held on May 4, 2023 at Resorts World with 63 businesses represented and 123 job seekers.
- ✓ New OSOS Audit being performed as well as NYSCION.
- ✓ Scott Curry has started as the new Disability Resources Coordinator. He is currently in training to administer benefits counseling. All open positions at CWD have been filled.
- ✓ The Construction trade pilot program started on April 10th, Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:30 – 9:30pm at the SC Career and Tech Center. Nine individuals were enrolled. A June graduation is scheduled.
- ✓ Applications are now being accepted for the Summer Youth Employment Program. So far 35 applications have been received. Applications are also being accepted for Crew Leaders. The Program will run from July 10th through August 18th.

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

Dory Alport presented for the Small Business Services group. The group is discussing some tangible goals with metrics incorporated into the plan. Some topics for include:

1. Host an annual Business Roundtable to assess what services business community needs.
2. Challenges in a generational workplace (i.e. communication, interviewing, training).
3. Networking between schools and business to attract students to the workplace.
4. Resources available to business for job seekers with barriers.
5. What the metrics should look like - levels of business needs.

Jacob Lerner's Adult Services Group meets on May 11th and Claire Taggart's Youth Services Group meets on May 24th. All groups will provide updates at next meeting in September.

5. Board Education – Workforce Clean Energy – Heather Brown, Acting Commissioner Planning Department
Heather was introduced to the Board and gave a brief overview of her Department and some initiatives.

Mr. Green adjourned the meeting at 9:05AM.

Motion: Gene Kelly

Seconded: Claire Taggart

All in Favor – meeting adjourned.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 12, 2023