

Executive Committee March 17, 2021

Full Audio and video recording is available upon request.



Attendance

Executive Committee: Dave Slutz, Rick Kidder, Carl Taber, Helena DaSilva-Hughes, John Fernandes, Lisa Lemieux, Jennifer Patnaude, Ron Melbourne

Guests: Beth Costa, Elizete Perry, Diane Hurley

Staff: Jim Oliveira, Donna Ramos, Deborah Meggison, Andrea McLaughlin, Abbey Despres, Jacqueline Sylvia, Brian Silva-Boutwell, Joe Lopes

Greetings and Call to Order–David Slutz, Chair–12:02 pm

- Jim Oliveira noted the governor’s order on video meetings and conducted a roll call of Board attendees.

Announcement

- Congratulations to Brian Silva-Boutwell on his promotion to Senior Connecting Activities Coordinator.
- Welcome to Joe Lopes the new Deputy Executive Director.

Consent Agenda (Votes)

- February 12, 2021 Minutes and Treasurer’s Report–motion to approve Lisa Lemieux, seconded by Rick Kidder – verbal roll call, all in favor.

Executive Director–Jim Oliveira

- Jim noted the addition of Taylor Nichols-Xavier as WFB Monitor/Admin to the staff next week. This will be particularly helpful as we go through certification at the Career Center. He also discussed multiple ongoing projects including: Annual DCS Monitoring; Partner MOU renewal; Strategic Plan; multiple initiatives in healthcare, maritime, apprenticeship, manufacturing and the DoD Technician are all outlined in the Live Binder. Youth funding is at an all-time high.

Deputy Executive Director Report

- Joe Lopes introduced himself and discussed how he has been working with the Youth Team at the present time.

Standing Committee Updates

- Performance & Oversight
 - Reviewed year over year numbers & are looking at changing reports due to Covid-19.
- Business Development–Chair, Rick Kidder
 - Employer assistance is running behind. The challenge is trying to get the customers to ‘look forward’ in any way beyond the extra \$\$\$. Committee has formed a ‘return to work’ group to include a marketing component.
- Youth Council Update - Chair, Jennifer Patnaude
 - The group reviewed the results of the survey and discussed next steps.

Career Center Certification

- Donna Ramos reviewed the results which are located in the Live Binder. Overall the Career Center did very well; two weak areas that need improvement: customer satisfaction surveys and marketing. John Fernandes and Ron Melbourne were both part of the review team and provided additional insight into the process stating that it was much improved from previous evaluations. The marketing issue has been brought to the Business Development Committee and will be worked there going forward. Motion to approve Ron Melbourne, seconded by John Fernandes – verbal roll call, all in favor.

Career Center Update – Beth Costa

- Beth Costa–discussed the integration of the Career Center with the Workforce Board and how they are working well together. She also shared some of the challenges the center has been experiencing due to Covid-19 jobseekers.

Nominating Committee

- Rick Kidder has agreed to chair the nominating committee and asked the John Fernandes serve as a member. We will be looking for an additional member as Paula Shiner who formerly served on the committee retired in FY 2019.

Other Business

Remaining FY21 meeting dates

- o **Wednesday, May 26, 2021** – Performa Budget to be discussed
- o **Wednesday, June 16, 2021**
- John Fernandes asked that we consider James O’Brien’s retirement from Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical School and ensure we get a replacement. Jim Oliveira assured him that Mike Watson the new Superintendent is already on board to replace him, especially in light of the Career Technical Institute Initiative in the Commonwealth.

Adjourned at 1:14 pm. Roll Call conducted with all in favor.