



Workforce Development Board of Sullivan, Inc.

Robert Green, Chair
Laura Quigley, Executive Director

Minutes September 15, 2020 - Full Board Meeting

Members Attending: Robert Green- Chairman, Jacob Lerner – Vice Chairman, Dory Alport – Treasurer, Judy Balaban- Secretary, Gene Kelly- At Large, Denise Burgio, Olga Campos, Dawn Ciorari, Stacy Cohen, Freda Eisenberg, John Emminger, Loreen Gebelein, Tara Kammarada, Christine Knickerbocker, Peggy Marchese, Jay Quaintance, Jaime Schmeiser ,Chris Schmidt, Susan Schmitt, Marcia Valdes, Donna Willi.

Others Attending: Laura Quigley- WDB/ Executive Director, Klu Padu- Sullivan County Community College, Alana McGinnis – CWD/ Business Services Representative, Sharon Ferber- Community Resources/Administrative Assistant

This is a ZOOM meeting called to order at 8:05am.

Board Business:

1. Approval of February 2020 and June 2020 minutes.
Motion: Jaime Schmeiser
Second: Jay Quaintance
2. Resolution: Currently, eligible WIOA customers can access up to \$4000.00 in training support through an Individual Training Account (ITA). The cost of a number of trainings have increased and the current cap needs to be changed. Therefore, effective this date the cap for Individual Training Accounts is increased to \$5000.00
Motion: Freda Eisenberg
Second: Jay Quaintance
3. Director's Report – Laura Quigley
Highlights:

NYSDOL got some Federal Dislocated Worker grant money as a result of the pandemic. We are waiting for guidance on how to draw from this money. NYSDOL is issuing guidance in the coming weeks on the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). This a local agreement between system partners outlining the roles and responsibilities of each partner and the provision of their respective workforce services and how to collectively continue to provide and improve service delivery. NYSDOL has also issues performance measures for the program years 2020 and 2021. We have until September to accept the proposed measures or request a negotiation. Ms. Quigley will be requesting a negotiation on some of the youth measures.

We are planning to hold a Drive –Thru Job Fair in October. Our tentative dates are October 5th, 6th and 7th. We are planning to hold the Job Fairs in Monticello, Liberty and Callicoon. We will be reaching out to all the businesses for their flyers and job orders. We will compile a packet of information to be handed out to each attendee. Walk-ins will be welcome.

NYS has been approved to participate in FEMA's Lost Wages Assistance program. This program will provide an additional \$300.00 per week to traditional unemployment recipients.

There will be changes made to the MOVE Sullivan public transit routes. The changes will allow for one route to go to Rock Hill and Woodridge and the other route to expand down Rte. 42 in Monticello to include the housing complexes. We will also be implementing the \$2.00 fare. We are investigating to insure all federal guidelines are being met. We are looking to have these changes effective in October.

Both the Summer Youth and Sullivan Renaissance Internship programs are wrapping up. Although operating with a reduced number of students both programs were successful.

NYS DOL reports that there were 10,401 unemployment claims filed for Sullivan County from April to August of this year as compared to 1029 claims filed last year at this time. Though the unemployment rate is high the data for June and July also shows that there was an increase in jobs which would indicate that people are being called back to work.

4. Loreen Gebelein, Director of Workforce Development gave an update on the programs at Center for Workforce Development.
The Center for Workforce remains closed to the public but continues to provide services. TANF assessments are now phone assessments. E-mails, phone calls and faxes are being used to continue to provide information and current job openings to our customers. The TANF orientation is now a virtual slide show presentation, the forms are now fillable and IT is working to enable electronic signature before this goes live. Career Readiness has also been cancelled due to COVID but this is also being set up to go virtual in January of 2021. In conjunction with Crawford Library in Monticello, a continual ZOOM Resume Building seminar has been set up. We purchased Essential Education which is an online learning platform for High School Equivalency, GED and work and computer essentials. We have signed on with Med-Cert which is a short-term online training program that offers degrees/certification in Healthcare, IT, support staff and manufacturing. We also have downloaded GCF Global which offers free online learning for Excel, Windows, Technology and anything computer related. Outreach to businesses has continued with distribution of information regarding small business loans, regulations, Governor's updates, COVID info, Hot Jobs and other pertinent information. The Career Center has been rearranged to meet COVID regulations and policies and procedures are in place in anticipation of reopening to the public.

5. Klu Padu and Jay Quaintance from Sullivan County Community College gave a power point presentation outlining their current status.
The college is only allowing students enrolled in the Culinary and Nursing programs in the building. All other students are attending via remote learning. The College is now offering a CASAC program as well as a 1 year certificate for Direct Support Professionals. The college also now sanctions E-Sports.

Mr. Green adjourned the meeting at 8:55am.

Motion: Stacy Cohen

Second: Gene Kelly

All in favor – meeting adjourned.