

Meeting of Montgomery County Workforce Development Board (WDB)*
September 1st, 2021
8:30 AM

*A full recording of this meeting can be accessed [via Zoom](#) using passcode 0M=0#K\$V

Board Attendees: Michelle Bell-Smith, John Cain, Mark Drury, Barbara Ebel, Wyatt Genser, Steve Greenfield, Jeff Guido, Courtney Hall, Mahesh Kalva, Mary Lang, Beth Lash, Omar Lazo, Lesley MacDonald, Roxana Mejia, Helen Nixon, Yomi Ntewo, Sharon Strauss, Diego Uriburu, Ben Wu

Non-Board Attendees: Elaine Chang, Amelia Kalant, Kathleen McKirchy

Staff: Tina Edmundson, Administrative Coordinator; Anthony Featherstone, Executive Director; John Hattery, Director of Strategic Initiatives; Sarah Van De Weert, Director of Government Relations

CHAIRPERSON WELCOME

Mr. Drury welcomed all members. Motion to approve July minutes w/ no opposition.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Mr. Featherstone introduced Ernestine Chambers, Performance and Data Manager and John Hattery, Directory of Strategic Initiatives.

Ms. Chambers presented yearly data reports and answered several questions. Follow-up will take place throughout the next few months.

Mr. Hattery presented on:

- Creating a Community Impact Department
 - Performs county outreach in efforts to start relationships and become educated with what's available at WSM.
 - Invest in dual track re-entry program
 - Working with DOCR to restart reentry program, deliver pre-employment services, creating community facing re-entry team.
 - Will be stationed at Germantown and Wheaton AJC
- AJC Mobile purchase
 - Regular stops in community, attend special events to AJC to the community
 - Scheduled for delivery in late 2021 or early 2022.
 - Will be managed and operated by community impact team.
- Involved in Purple Line Coalition
- Participation with National 5G Coalition

Mr. Featherstone provided the Executive Director Report:

WIOA Policies

- WIOA required policies be updated in 3 years
- Identified approx. 25 policies to be developed or updated. WSM will take the lead on updating policies.

- Will present policies to board for action

Recruiting

- Currently recruiting for director of administration

ARPA: Next Steps

- Grant App approved by MDOL
- Facilitate training sessions to understand dos and don'ts when creating programs
- Next step is to develop solicitation that meets requirements of ARPA and targets certain population
- Youth Contractor have been on-boarded (Eckerd and LAYC)
- Rapid re-employment program, work with local trade organization and Montgomery College
- Building team with ARPA funds (business services)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Employment Recovery Committee: Mr. Uriburu stated committee did not meet. Will meet in September.

Program Committee: Ms. Bell-Smith stated committee last met in June will meet again in September. Main thing is to get people back to work. Will have a more comprehensive report to provide after next meeting.

Business and Community Engagement Committee: Ms. Lang stated committee has not met. Will meet soon.

OPEN DISCUSSION

- Board discussed meeting structure and agreed to meet every other month beginning now. Plan to start quarterly meetings in 2022.
- Nominations Committee to select new members will include Mark Drury, Anthony Featherstone, Mary Lang, Michelle Bell-Smith.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:49 AM.

The next meeting will take place on November 3rd, 2021 at 8:30 AM.