

Howard County Workforce Development Board
April 1, 2022

Board Members:

Dean Turner; Dr. Kindred; Dwight Carr; George Matthews; Julie Givens; Kenn Hamm; Matt Jackson; Paul Pappas; Prasad Karana; Robert Hooten; Stephen Liggett-Creel

Staff and Guest:

Francine Trout; Ken Lemberg; Marsha Netus; Mike Kelly; Mike Lawrence; Stephanie Hill

Welcome & Introductions- Vice Chairman Hooten

Vice Chairman Hooten called the meeting to order. Introductions were made by all.

Approval of the minutes- Vice Chairman Hooten

Meeting minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

One Stop Operator- Mike Lawrence

Mr. Lawrence provided the following services:

- Coordinated a meeting with the partner staff and a human resource professional to discuss the skill sets needed in today's job market from an employer perspective. Slides and the recording are available for those who are interested.
- Upcoming partner meetings are planned and will focus on:
 - The new way to work, selfcare and counseling.
 - Workforce 180 will conduct training for staff on "Fixing Your Focus, Letting Go of Your Comfort Zone and Team Building."
 - Mr. Lawrence will continue to share effective practices centered around apprenticeships and work-based learning.
 - Compliance activities are planned to cover section 188 of the law and will focus on in-person and virtual accessibility as well as technical assistance if needed.
 - Matt Jackson offered his assistance in setting up a day for Mr. Lawrence to conduct an ADA and Section 188 walkthrough.

Director's update:

Board Staffing

- **Both Chairman Carr and Vice Chairman Hooten's terms** are expiring and the board will need to elect new leaders.
 - Business members interested were encouraged to apply. Descriptions of each role were shared.

- **Summer Youth Employment Program**- recruitment for youth participants is underway. Applications are posted at: www.howardcountymd.gov/howardworkforce. Worksites are still needed. Employers who are able to host a youth should contact Francine directly.
 - Stephen Liggett Creel shared that the Governor is revamping job descriptions to formally eliminate the four-year college degree requirement from thousands of state jobs. The state will work with partners to recruit and market these roles to job seekers who are “Skilled Through Alternative Routes” (STARs).
 - June 1- OWD will hold an **Apprenticeship Information Session**. The event will focus on how businesses can use and develop apprenticeships. The event will be hosted in English and later in Spanish.
 - **RFP**- We are working with our procurement office to post an RFP for a One-Stop Operator. We expect to have it posted within the coming days.
 - Board members and guests received a tour of the Columbia Workforce Center.

Mike Kelly -Baltimore Metropolitan Council- Mr. Kelly, Executive Director of the Baltimore Metropolitan Council, gave a demonstration on the Careerpathways Job Exploration Tool, which is currently being used by Anne Arundel County.

- The Careerpathways tool is an online interactive tool used to identify key high growth industries that provide a range of employment opportunities for residents. It also serves as a pathway tool to provide educational, salary and demand information for job seekers.
- Industries include Healthcare, Information Technology, Transportation, Construction and Hospitality.
- The Workforce Warriors Committee is interested in providing this tool for Howard County and Francine and Stephanie will work with Mr. Kelly on next steps.

Committee Updates:

- Members from both committees agreed that the Careerpathways tool would be a valuable resource to help further their committee goals.

Meeting was adjourned