

Workforce Development Board of Columbia & Greene Counties

MISSION: The C-G WDB will provide leadership, influence, focus and oversight for the local workforce development system. *Strategies to Achieve Vision and Mission:*

- Promote collaboration between economic development, education and training resources
- Measure system performance for quality improvement
- Promote the system with the public

Meeting Notes

October 17, 2023 @ 4:30 p.m. @ CGCC PAC Room 614 with virtual option

Meeting minutes will be posted to www.columbiagreenetworks.org.

WELCOME

Chair, Mike Veeder/Chris Nardone

The meeting opened at 4:34 with roll call.

Present: Chair Mike Veeder, Scott Brazie*, Patrick Brown*, Jessica Gabriels, James Hannahs*, Guy Hughes, Jr, Chris Nardone, Kathy Nelson*, Ann Marie O'Hanlon*, Rachel Puckett, Vice Chair John Rutkey*, Stephanie Schleuderer, Ron Valentine, Brya Scali*, Lisa Thomas, Joe Wolodkevich, Jackie Fitzgerald*, Mark Fingar*, Florence Ohle, Michael Torchia, Jamie Budai,

* = Zoom

Guests: Rebecca Preusser (WIO- Youth Services), Danielle Palleschi (WIO – DRC), Jeanette O'Neil (WIO- Adult and DW Services), Holly Wanek (WIO), Amanda Karch (CGCC- CE-PD)

Excused: Susan Sommers Evans, Laura Becker, Aimee Skiff, Deb Tuttle, Michele Troy-Ryder and Kristina Vaselewski

New member welcomed: Nicole Bliss, Peggy Moon, Blake Garrison, and Arica Cooper have been officially appointed to the Board.

With 24 Board members in attendance, a quorum was available.

WELCOME

Mike Veeder, Chair/Chris Nardone

Roll Call

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Mike Veeder, Chair/Chris Nardone

Rachel Puckett made a motion to accept the April 18th 2023 meeting notes as written. Jamie Budai seconded the motion. The meeting notes were accepted with all in favor. Meeting notes are posted on the website.

WDB Director Recruitment Update

Chris Nardone Interim WDB Dir.

- Cris Nardone reviewed the recommendation of the Executive Committee that the WDB Director Position be shifted to a full-time position, and that the Interim Director be appointed to the full-time position. There was discussion around the process and

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procedure of this transition and how the position would be handled moving forward. It was decided an employer of record would be the most sustainable way to ensure future succession planning would be effective, after the difficulty in filling a part time contract position. 3 resolutions were made.

- Resolution 1
 - The WDB Director Position will change from a part time contract position to a full time position
 - Motion made by Florence Ohle, seconded by Jamie Budai, passed by unanimous decision with James Hannahs, Jessica Gabrial, Chris Nardone, and Patrick Brown Abstaining.
- Resolution 2
 - Interim WDB Director Chris Nardone be appointed to the full time WDB Director.
 - Motion made by Florence Ohle, seconded by Jamie Budai, passed by unanimous decision with James Hannahs, Jessica Gabrial, Chris Nardone, and Patrick Brown Abstaining.
- Resolution 3
 - Exploration for an employer of record for the full time WDB Director position will begin with initial conversations to be had with Greene County.
 - Motion made by Florence Ohle, seconded by Jamie Budai, passed by unanimous decision with James Hannahs, Jessica Gabrial, Chris Nardone, and Patrick Brown Abstaining.

MEMBERSHIP-Board Update

Chris Nardone Interim WDB Dir.

- Welcome new members –
 - ❖ Ms. Peggy Moon, PGS Millwork, Inc
 - ❖ Ms. Nicole Bliss, National Bank of Coxsackie
 - ❖ Mr. Blake Garrison, Garrison Fire and Rescue (appt pending)
 - ❖ Ms. Aricia Cooper, Arica's Insurance (appt pending)
- One Business Representative for Columbia county is in recruitment.

POLICY UPDATE

Chris Nardone Interim WDB Dir.

- **Columbia Greene WDB In-Demand Occupation List**
 - Motion to approve the reviewed in demand occupation list made by Mark Finger, seconded by James Hannahs, passed by unanimous decision
- **Columbia Greene Self-Sufficiency Policy**
 - Motion to approve reviewed Self Sufficiency Policy made by Stephanie Schleuderer, seconded by Blake Garrison, passed by unanimous decision
- **PY23 Designation of Youth Services**
 - Motion to approve designation of youth services made by Florence Ohle, seconded by Jamie Budai, passed by unanimous decision.
- **Columbia-Greene Priority of Service**
 - Motion to approve updated policy made by Mark Finger, second Micheal Torchia, unanimously approved.

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WORKFORCE OFFICE-Board Update

Chris Nardone, WIO Director

- Service Overview
 - ❖ Chris reported that the September in-person Career/Job Fair was a success. Career Fairs may transition to twice a year rather than quarterly as the number of job seekers has dropped over the past few quarters.
 - ❖ Summer Youth Employment Program for 2023
 - Rebecca shared the success of the SYEP and the YES program
 - ❖ GED Testing Site Update
 - The WIO had to reapply to become testing center due to technical issues at CGCC preventing the installation of software
 - ❖ Update the Families of Woodstock for Family Care Training Partnership with CGCC & WIO
 - This successful partnership is in the second round of trainings. The first cohort resulted in 4 new certified childcare workers, potentially opening 12 childcare spots. The program is hoping to help train even more providers in round two starting in June. This initiative is assisting in bringing more childcare options to rural areas of our counties.
- Chris provided a Budget Overview for PY23 (July 1, 2023- June 30, 2024) and a brief update on performance measures.
 - ❖ The bulk of the PY 23 allocation has not been received yet and is expected in November, a better report will be provided at the January meeting

COMPLIANCE UPDATE

Chris Nardone Interim WDB Dir.

- Columbia Greene MOU- Approved Submission- April 5, 2021. Pending in the State Legal Dept.
- One Stop Procurement- Completed with all required documents signed and submitted to NYSDOL.
- EEO Survey completed.
- The Local Plan review and update Submitted to NYSDOL
- The Regional Plan review and submitted to NYSDOL

Economic Development Updates, Jessica Gabriel & James Hannahs

Jessica and James provided Economic Development updates for both counties. Flyers were emailed to members on the following upcoming events/initiatives:

Local Business/Organization Updates

Board Members

Good and Welfare

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Next Board Meeting: January 16th 2024 at Columbia Greene Community College with Zoom Option

Definitions

MOU- Memorandum of Understanding

NOA- Notice of Obligational Authority

FOTA- Fiscal Oversight and Technical Assistance

SED- State Education Department

WIOA- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (2014)

OJT- On the Job Training

JSEC-Job Service Employer Committee

NYSDOL- New York State Dept of Labor

TET DWG- Trade and Economic Transition National Dislocated Worker Grant

S.T.E.M—Science, Technology, Engineering and Math

NWRC- National Work Readiness Credential

TANF- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

UI-Unemployment Insurance

ITA-Individual Training Account

SYEP-Summer Youth Employment Program

GED-NYS High School Equivalency Exam return in 2022

CLEOs- Chief Local Elected Officials

OTDA-Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

PY 22- Program Year beginning July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023

PY 23- Program Year beginning July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024

NEG- National Emergency Grant

WARN ACT-The Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act

TAA-Trade Adjustment Assistance

REA-Re-employment and Eligibility Assessment

DRN- Disability Resource Navigator – grant starting in 2022