

# COUNTY OF ULSTER

## Workforce Development Board

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Sharon Williams, Director

### Ulster County Workforce Development Board Meeting March 21, 2023 Minutes

- MEMBERS PRESENT** – Tony Marmo, Anthony Mignone, Don Mapes, Don Lucarello, Maura McMahon, Desiree Lyle, Alex Cordova, Mike Iapoce, Michael Berg, Tamika Dunkley
- MEMBERS ABSENT** - Tina Buono, Ashima Butler, Jess Davis, John Eickman, Jim Ferraro, Nels Leader, Coleen Macaluso, Sean Mahoney, Christopher Marx, Joe McDole, Bill McKnight, Angela Patella
- ALSO PRESENT** – Sharon Williams, OET Director/WDB Director, Faith Golden, OET Deputy Director, Renee Pugliese, OET, Cal Trumann, Mid-Hudson Regional Clean Energy Hub

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 pm by Tony Marmo, WDB Chair. There was a quorum.

#### 1. OPENING – TONY MARMO, BOARD CHAIR:

Tony welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – TONY MARMO

Tony asked for a motion to approve minutes from January 2023. Motion made by Frank Falatyn, seconded by Don Mapes. All in Favor, none opposed. Minutes approved.

#### 3. FINANCIAL REPORT – FAITH GOLDEN, OET DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Faith presented the charts and graphs for the February 2023 Report on Adult, Youth and Dislocated Worker funds.

We are a little bit ahead on Adult spending, a little behind on Youth and a little more behind on DW spending. WIOA allows 100% transfer between Adult and DW funds and permission is needed from the Board to request transfer. There's about \$16,000 left to spend on Adult, about \$24,450 on Youth and about \$55,000 left on DW and we have been seeing more Adults coming in than DW. Faith would like to transfer about \$40,000 from DW to Adult spending.

#### 4. MOTION TO ALLOW APPROPRIATE TRANSFER OF FUNDS BETWEEN SOURCES – FAITH GOLDEN

Tony asked for Motion to move that money. Motion made by Anthony Mignone and seconded by Frank Falatyn. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Sharon added that OET has been doing more direct outreach at other County locations over the last few months. One location is Department of Motor Vehicles and another location is Department of Social Services. We have had staff there to attract people and let them know about our services. We have gotten some new customers as a result of this. This outreach is going to be extending to outside the Kingston area, looking for locations that have a lot of foot traffic. Any suggestions of additional locations are welcomed - please send to Sharon or Renee.

We are promoting the solar installer/certification class at Ulster BOCES that should be starting early April. That is one of the courses that we can support through our wheel of funding.

#### **5. WDB COMMITTEE STRUCTURE REFINEMENT – SHARON WILLIAMS, WDB DIRECTOR**

Sharon spoke about our Workforce Board Committee structure. At the last Workforce Summit, four categories were developed: 1. Engaging Youth in Career Pathways, 2. Engaging Historically Excluded Populations, 3. Employer Investment in Upskilling and Retention, 4. Wrap-around Services for Workforce Development (Transportation, Housing, Childcare) – this category will be overseen by Economic Development, with collaboration from all. There was some discussion between members who were at the event and since the event, that we should look to restructure the Committee structure of the Board. We are looking for feedback on that. Discussion followed. There may be another Workforce Summit in middle of June possibly. SUNY Ulster Kingston Campus is available again. We are trying to dove-tail a potential upcoming event that involves Green Careers. We need to keep the Workforce Summit going because we are making some progress. We are trying to morph our committees to more closely follow the Summit committees. Discussion followed; there was input from the group.

It was brought up to keep in mind the WIOA requirements: the fiduciary responsibility, creating an In Demand list of targeted jobs, and approve contracts. Look at the evolution.

There was discussion on broadening whom to be invited to the next Summit that could add value, while also keeping the number of attendees manageable.

#### **6. UPCOMING CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP – SHARON WILLIAMS/TONY MARMO**

Any changes to committee structure wouldn't happen until July 1<sup>st</sup> forward. Some members' terms are up on June 30<sup>th</sup>. We are recruiting to fill seats July 1<sup>st</sup>, we need to get more members from the private sector. Members should be receiving a letter asking if they want to renew their membership on the Board. We have looked at the list of Summit participants. If anyone has suggestions, please send to Sharon and she will filter it through Tony. Tony's term as Chair will end on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Jim Ferraro will be the next Chair.

#### **7. DIRECTOR'S REPORT – SHARON WILLIAMS, WDB DIRECTOR**

PROGRAM UPDATES – We are trying more to let people know who we are and what we do. Part of that outreach is Public Service Announcements that Radio Kingston will be broadcasting. The next PSA will be on working with customers who have disabilities. We will reach out to other radio stations as well to try to get the information out. We also plan to get the word out on Facebook and Instagram, and we will be updating our website as well.

E-Newsletter – First issue was launched, next issue will come out April 1<sup>st</sup> where we launch our Lunch & Learn Series. The first one will be in April (date to be announced) and will focus on employers: to consider alternative populations for employment – expand their concept.

Training Provider Meetings – We are also trying to ensure that we have the right training available for our residents, so they can get the jobs on our In Demand Occupations List. We are looking at who is going to train the workforce for the emerging industries that are coming to Ulster County. Our training providers are having trouble finding staff.

Michael Berg invited Sharon to be on his radio show that runs 6:00 – 6:30 on the first and third Tuesdays. Date to be determined.

Tony mentioned the information that was sent out regarding the State Office of New Americans. We would like to get someone from that agency to join our meeting virtually to talk about what they do. A webinar is being held on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 from 12:00 – 1:30 pm titled "Celebrating March as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month" being put on by State Office of New Americans along with the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities.

#### **8. MOTION TO ADJOURN – TONY MARMO**

Tony asked for a Motion to Adjourn – Motion made by Frank Falatyn, seconded by Anthony Mignone. Meeting adjourned at 4:29 pm.

**ULSTER COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
NEXT MEETING:**

**Tuesday, May 9, 2023  
3:30 PM**