



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Supporting the Development and Retention of a World Class Workforce

Jeffrey S. Swartz, Executive Director

Carl A Donato Jr., Chair

**ABILITIES COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2023 (ZOOM)**

ATTENDANCE

COMMITTEE INFORMATION AND ATTENDANCE								
Name	Organization	Trustee Member	13-Jul-23	10-Aug-23	14-Sep-23	12-Oct-23	9-Nov-23	7-Dec-23
Alloway, Veronica	American Water			X				
Askie-Rosario, Andrea	CC Commission for the Blind		X				X	X
Cirii, Frank	Camden County One-Stop	✓		X		X	X	
Coleman, Ardella	Cooper University Healthcare							
Deitz, Jeffery	Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services	✓						
Donato, Carl, Chair	Wawa	✓	X	X		X	X	X
Forman, Lois	Jewish Family & Children's Service		X	X	X	X	X	
Freire, Edison	JEVS Human Services		X					
Fugee, Antoinette	Cooper University Healthcare		X			X		
Galvin, Tim	Cooper University Healthcare							
Gregory, GERALYN	Wawa						X	
Heaney, Melissa	JFCS w/Project Search							
Hoban, Colette	Lenape Regional High School Dist./Project Search							X
Lucas, Angela	JEVS HireAbility							X
Marks, Karen	Jewish Family & Children Service of Southern NJ							
McClintock, Monica	Rowan University		X	X	X	X	X	
Metzger, Frances	Cooper University Healthcare							
Page-Soncrant, Jeanne	NJDOL - Business Rep.				X	X	X	X
Perez, Irene	NJDVRS				X	X	X	
Quinones, Cris	Wawa							
Rizzi, Stephanie	M & T Bank							X
Scott, Jessica	The Arc of Camden County		X			X	X	
Spinelli, Allison	Gloucester County		X					
Starcher, Connie	Wawa						X	
Storm, Jeanne	American Water			X		X	X	X
Stubbs, Andrea	Gloucester Township						X	
Tyndell, Maurcie	Bestworks Industries						X	
Weinberg, Oriol	Jewish Family & Children's Service		X	X			X	
Wikiera, Erik	Wawa						X	X
GutbezahI, Maayan	WDB Staff							X
Henderson, Bridget	WDB Staff							
Levitt, Alex	WDB Staff		X	X	X	X	X	
Swartz, Jeffrey S.	WDB Staff		X		X	X	X	X
Vaughn, Debra	WDB Staff		X	X	X	X	X	
Williams, Leslie	WDB Staff							X

WELCOME

Carl Donato, Committee Chair, greeted the attendees. The meeting was called to order at 8:34 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Carl asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2023 meeting. Motion was made by Jeff Swartz, seconded by Carl Donato. With a majority vote to the affirmative, the motion carried and the minutes for the meeting held on November 9, 2023 were approved.

INTRODUCTIONS

- Carl welcomed the WDB’s new Committee Coordinator, Maayan GutbezahI. He also welcomed Stephanie Rizzi from M&T Bank, who is new to the committee, and asked the rest of the meeting attendees to introduce themselves.



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COMMITTEE UPDATES & DISCUSSION

- Carl and Jeff went over the committee's goals for early 2024, which includes adding new employers to the committee, and 1-2 parents to act as advocates for their children and help the committee understand what it could be doing better to address the needs of those served.
- Carl and Jeff talked about planning an in-person event in the late spring to highlight a part of the population that they are looking to serve. Last year's event, in partnership with Cooper Hospital, highlighted veterans. It was a successful event, with veterans, employers, and some of our partners in attendance at Cooper in Camden.
- The committee is still considering which population to highlight this year.
- In May, the Literacy Committee is holding a resource event at the library in Clementon. Jeff suggested that the Abilities Committee could potentially partner with them for this event, as collective partnerships tend to increase attendance.
- Jeff highlighted M&T Bank for winning an award for their policies regarding inclusion at the bank. Stephanie Rizzi spoke about possibly putting together a slide show about how M&T Bank engages with different populations, so that we could perhaps mirror their policies.

ADJOURNMENT

Carl thanked the team for their service to the committee. Jeff reminded everyone about the quarterly meeting on December 13, and encouraged everyone to RSVP. Carl asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Jeanne Paige-Soncraut and seconded by Jeanne Storm. The motion was carried with a majority vote to the affirmative and the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next Abilities Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 8:30 a.m. The meeting will be conducted via Zoom.

Submitted by,

Maayan Gutbezahl, Committee Coordinator

Debra Vaughn, Administrative Assistant to the Executive Director