

**ABILITIES COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2022, AT THE WDB OFFICE (ZOOM)**

ATTENDANCE

COMMITTEE INFORMATION AND ATTENDANCE									
Name	Organization	Trustee Member	14-Oct-21	18-Nov-21	13-Jan-22	10-Feb-22	10-Mar-22	14-Apr-22	
Cirii, Frank	Camden County One-Stop	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Deitz, Jeffery	Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services	✓							
Donato, Carl, Interim Chair	Wawa	✓	X	X	X	X		X	
Forman, Lois	Jewish Family & Children's Service		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Freire, Edison	JEVS Human Services		X			X	X		
Fugee, Antoinette	Center for Family Services								
Galvin, Tim	Cooper University Healthcare					X			
Hale, Dawn	The Arc of Camden County					X			
Lucas, Angela	JEVS HireAbility				X				
Marks, Karen	Jewish Family & Children Service of Southern NJ			X		X			
McClintock, Monica	Rowan University			X	X	X	X	X	
Mills, Jay	NJ Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired								
Scott, Jessica	The Arc of Camden County		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Smith, Veda	Camden County Independent Living Center								
Taguwa, Denise	LWD-WDB Coord + Support								
Tyndell, Maurice	BestWorks					X			
Veneziani, Jennifer	Program Planning and Development Specialist, DVRS								
Levitt, Alex	WDB Staff		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Swartz, Jeffrey S.	WDB Staff			X	X	X	X	X	X
Vaughn, Debra	WDB Staff					X	X	X	X

WELCOME

Carl Donato, Interim Committee Chair, greeted all those in attendance and the meeting was called to order at 8:36am.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

For the first order of business, Carl asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 10, 2022, meeting. Lois Forman made the motion, seconded by Monica McClintock. The motion carried with a majority vote to the affirmative and the minutes for March 10, 2022, were approved.

PTSD EVENT UPDATE – Carl Donato Jr.:

- Event Agenda: Carl and Monica McClintock worked to pull the agenda and script together, and she has submitted it for final approval. The legal presentation of the program's agenda will be made by Edward Yost, Counsel for Wawa Inc.
- Event Flyer & Registration: A draft of the flyer has been created and with the confirmation of information and sponsorships, the flyer will be distributed for final approval. Once the flyer is finalized, they will be shared on social media and partner websites. Monica McClintock requested 100 printed copies for an upcoming event. Event registration will be set up on Eventbrite. Committee members will register for the event.
- Event Sponsorships: The Rotary of Haddonfield has contributed \$500. JEVS, Wawa, and Truist Bank are providing \$500 each for event expenses. Requests and invoices have been submitted to them, but the funds have not been received to date. Carl will follow up on the progress of Wawa sponsorship funds.

- Food & Beverage, Table Décor: A continental breakfast including fruit, will be provided by Andreotti's Catering. Small floral arrangements will be on the guest tables.
- Virtual Presentations: There will be no virtual presentation. All of Cooper Hospital's participants and guest speakers will be in attendance. Carl stated that he will confirm this with Tim Galvin.
- Audio/Visual Equipment: Tim Galvin will provide a laptop and projector. Carl offered to bring additional audio equipment such as microphones and speakers if necessary. A blank white wall space and a pull-down screen is available on site. A podium with a microphone is available for the event but additional wireless or handheld microphones will be needed.
- Agency Tables: Space for seven resource tables will be provided. Among the agencies attending will be Arc of Camden County, JFCS, JEVS, Goodwill and One-Stop. Two tables remain available for use. Ricky O'Hara (DVR) and Geoffrey Taylor (DVRs) will be contacted.
- Event Sharing on Social Media: The option of streaming the event on Facebook Live or a having the video available on Google Drive will be discussed at the next meeting.
- Final event details, additional contacts for invitations and participation will be discussed at the May 12th meeting.

DISCUSSION:

Future Outreach Event Ideas:

Ideas for community outreach events were discussed. Jeff Swartz spoke of partnering with veterans' groups to jointly promote initiatives and said he would reach out to Matt Verney for suggestions. Monica McClintock suggested that the scope of the outreach could include "abilities" groups, and that the Chamber of Commerce may be a source of information for such groups to collaborate with. Jeff stated that Carl established at the start of his Chair leadership that this year's focus of the committee's attention would be veterans and disabled veterans.

- Alex Levitt suggested a movie night with a veteran/abilities-related movie.
- Carl Donato Jr. mentioned The Greater Philadelphia Veterans Network and asked Jeff if there would be any objection if the group's founder, Alex, would join in at the beginning of the May or future meeting to discuss what the organization does and how it may tie into the Committee's mission.

COMMITTEE MEMBER ORGANIZATION UPDATES

Frank Cirii, One-Stop Career Center

- *No updates were provided*

Lois Forman, Jewish Family & Children's Services (JFCS)

- The JFCS Vocational Breakfast will honor individuals who have been successful in their jobs and Employer of the Year, Independent Record Press. The event will be Friday, April 29, 2022, from 8:00am to 10:00am.
- Barbara Abrams, JFCS' Director of Disability Services, is retiring at the end of June and a new hire has been made to fill the position.

Alex Levitt – SYEP Update

- Among the employers requesting worksite agreements were: Karnival Foods, JCC Camps, Great Times Day Camps, Center for Family Services, MightyWriters, and D-Boyz Boxing. Alex noted that the pay rate for the stipend was increased from \$13.50 per hour to \$15 per hour because of additional funds provided by the State. He mentioned the Healing Arts Center in Voorhees is

looking for an intern with graphic arts skills, which he has contacted Camden County Technical High School about.

Jeff Swartz, CCWDB Update

- The Summer Youth Employment Program will provide opportunities for 45 young people aged 16-24, who reside in Camden County. The program will offer a 1-week education/job readiness training session and 7 weeks of employment for 23.5 hours per week, which will be paid by a stipend. Jeff stated that the employer could increase the work hours at their own expense. He explained an interview process is in place to match the youth to the work site aligned with their personal interests. Information is available to anyone who suggests an employer, or eligible person who may be interested in participating in the program.
- The 2022 cohort has started with the ACE Initiative for individuals 18 years of age and older. Line School classes will begin in mid to late April. Enrollment is still possible through Atlantic County for the next class session.

ADJOURNMENT

Carl Donato Jr. requested a motion for adjournment. Lois Forman made the motion, seconded by Jeff Swartz. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:30am.

NEXT MEETING

The next Abilities Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 12, 2022, at 8:30am. The meeting will be conducted via Zoom.

Submitted by,

Debra Vaughn

Administrative Assistant to the Executive Director