

Jeffrey S. Swartz, Executive Director

Matthew Verney, Chair

ABILITIES COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 2022 (ZOOM)

ATTENDANCE

COMMITTEE INFORMATION AND ATTENDANCE									
Name	Organization	Trustee Member	18-Nov-21	13-Jan-22	10-Feb-22	10-Mar-22	14-Apr-22	9-Jun-22	
Cirri, 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	X	
Quinones, Cris	Wawa								X
Scott, Jessica	The Arc of Camden County		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Taguwa, Denise	LWD-WDB Coord + Support								
Tyndell, Maurice	BestWorks				X				X
Levitt, Alex	WDB Staff		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Swartz, Jeffrey S.	WDB Staff		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Vaughn, Debra	WDB Staff				X	X	X		

WELCOME

Carl Donato Jr., Interim Committee Chair, greeted all those in attendance and the meeting was called to order at 8:30am.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

For the first order of business, Carl asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the May 12, 2022, meeting. Monica McClintock made the motion, seconded by Jeff Swartz. The motion carried with a unanimous vote to the affirmative and the minutes for May 12, 2022, were approved.

PTSD EVENT – Carl Donato Jr.:

- After introducing his Wawa colleague, Cris Quinones, Carl spoke of what he felt was a great event and offered his thanks to everyone for their assistance. He then invited committee members to share their feedback on the “PTSD in the Workplace” Event:
 - Lois Forman shared that she was very impressed and humbled by the Cooper team and with the wealth of information provided by their presentation. She said she gained a much greater understanding of PTSD and that the veteran participants were the highlight of the program for her. Jeff Swartz called what is being done for the treatment of military veterans at Cooper Health one of the best kept secrets in Camden County. Lois mentioned having a meeting scheduled in July with Ardella Coleman to discuss partnerships.
 - Carl mentioned that with the room not being prepared by the Boathouse staff as expected, the decision was made not to stream the event on Facebook or to record it.
 - Alex Levitt commented that given the length of the program and the in-depth information provided, he thought incorporating an interactive feature for attendees may be considered for future events.

- Jeff Swartz discussed the aspects of a paid attendance event and asked to hear input on charging a nominal admittance fee for future events. He offered that paying for admittance may lend credibility/legitimize the presentation, may serve a motivator to attend and provides a means to cover event expenses. He asked for feedback on the subject from everyone. Carl commented that he agreed with Jeff and was willing to try charging a fee for the next event. Monica McClintock stated that probably 80% of the human resources events are paid attendance and that she felt charging a fee may lend credibility to the events and boost attendance. Edison Friere congratulated everyone on the success of the PTSD event and commented that he supports charging a nominal fee with the potential to offer discounts or “scholarships” to cover the charge under certain circumstances, and that charging an admittance fee would allow a budget for extras for attendees, such as food.
- Carl thanked Edison for providing the projector and IT equipment for the event. Jeff took the opportunity to thank the PTSD event sponsors, Truist Bank, Wawa, Haddonfield Rotary and JEVS.
- Carl stated that, with his anticipated retirement from Wawa, he will continue to serve as Interim Chair of the committee through September 30th and after a new Chairperson is selected, he offered to continue assisting in any capacity he could, either as a board member or a volunteer.
- Jeff Swartz thanked Carl for his leadership to the Abilities Committee and the committee members for their participation in the PTSD event. He then extended an invitation to the upcoming virtual Quarterly Board Meeting on June 22nd, which will include all committees providing updates of their work and the election of Officers.
- Carl took the opportunity to have the committee attendees introduce themselves to Cris Quinones (Wawa, Store Operations Field Recruiter), Edison Friere (JEVS), Lois Forman (Jewish Families and Children Services of Southern NJ), Monica McClintock (Rowan University), Maurice Tyndell (Best Works Industries), Jessica Scott (Arc of Camden County), Alex Levitt (Camden County Workforce Development Board) all described their positions and the focus of their organizations. Monica mentioned Rowan’s Business School will offer an externship in the Fall. Starting in January 2023, Rowan’s business students will have an opportunity to spend 1-3 weeks over the Winter break to complete qualified hybrid, remote or in-person projects for work they may be able to include in their job searches.
- Carl noted that he would be on vacation during the week of the July Abilities Committee meeting but would be happy to attend. He mentioned that he expected to have more feedback and handouts of presentations from the PTSD event and that he hoped to discuss ideas for what is next for the Abilities Committee and future events.

ADJOURNMENT

Carl Donato Jr. requested a motion for adjournment. Maurice Tyndell made the motion, seconded by Monica McClintock. The motion carried with a unanimous vote to the affirmative and the meeting was adjourned at 9:40am.

NEXT MEETING

The next Abilities Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 14, 2022, at 8:30am. The meeting will be conducted via Zoom.

Submitted by,

Debra Vaughn, Administrative Assistant to the Executive Director