



Supporting the Development and Retention of a World Class Workforce

Jeffrey S. Swartz, Executive Director

Matthew Verney, Board Chair

LITERACY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 2023
ZOOM MEETING

ATTENDANCE

COMMITTEE INFORMATION AND ATTENDANCE		6-Dec-22	3-Jan-23	7-Feb-23	7-Mar-23	4-Apr-23	2-May-23
NAME	ORGANIZATION	TRUSTEE MEMBER					
Kalitan, Marlyn Chair	Kalitan Consulting	X	X	X	X	X	X
Abrams, Larry	BookSmiles		X	X	X		X
Beach, Patti	Goodwill	X	X		X		X
Chisolm, Victoria	Literacy Volunteers of America	X	X	X	X		
Cirii, Frank	Camden County One Stop	X	X	X			X
Dann, Carol	HopeWorks Camden	X		X	X		
Daunoras, Heidi	Pine Hill School District	X	x	X	X		X
Druce, Jennifer	Camden County Library						
Egrie, Gabrielle	Watermark Communities	X		X		X	X
Fithian, Danielle	Goodwill	X		X			
Fugee, Antoinette	Cooper Healthcare		X		X		
Hill, Lauren Dr.	Camden County College	x	X		X		X
Knopf, Dick	Marketing Professional Services	X	X	X		X	X
Mauro, Jennifer	Goodwill	X	X	X	X		
McKelvey, Christopher	Councilman, Clementon Borough		X	X	X	X	X
Norman, Tahja	Orchards Family Success Center						
Page-Soncraut, Jeanne	Dept. of Labor					X	
Rutzler, Eugene	Literacy Needs Assessment Intern	X					
Sinclair, Nidia	Camden County One-Stop					X	
Soira, Lizette	Orchards Family Success Center						
Strobl, Holly	Councilwoman, Clementon Borough						
Young, Jennifer	Verizon			X	X		
Willmann, Michael	WMSH		X	X	X	X	X
Levitt, Alex	WDB	X	x	X	X	X	X
Swartz, Jeffrey S.	WDB	X	X	X	X	X	X
Vaughn, Debra	WDB	X	X	X	X	X	X

WELCOME

Marlyn Kalitan, Chair, greeted the attendees and opened the meeting at 8:30 am. She then asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the May 2, 2023 meeting. Chris McKelvey clarified that Clementon Memorial Library is a part of the Camden County Library System. Motion was made Dick Knopf, seconded by Chris McKelvey. By majority vote to the affirmative, the motion was carried, and the minutes for May 2, 2023 were approved.

ONE-STOP CAREER CENTER

Update provided by Jeff Swartz, Executive Director

- HiSET testing has been eliminated by the State and only GED testing will be offered going forward.
- The State Dept. of Labor has still not provided the 2023 fiscal year allocation for funding.
- The One-Stop has plans to hire additional staff, pending adequate funding.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

- Marlyn announced that the Clementon Memorial Library will be reopening.
 - Chris McKelvey stated the library will be open 4 days a week. The historical room on the opposite site of the building will be open on the same days and hours. He thanked everyone for their efforts in getting the library reopened to provide services to the community.

- Clementon will hold its National Night Out Event on August 7th (after the actual National Night Out date of August 1st).
- Rhonda Shevrin of BookMates was not available to attend today's meeting but will be invited to future meetings.
- Marlyn asked for comments on Michael Willman's proposed STARR program.
 - Dr. Lauren Hill commented that upon review of the proposal, she saw opportunities in the inter-generational, cross-cultural aspect of the STARR proposal. When Marlyn questioned how the Literacy Committee would be involved, Dr. Hill explained that she viewed it as a program that committee could endorse as a viable activity to enhance literacy.
 - Dick commented that he would like to know if other pilot programs like the STARR program existed in other cities in the country and if literacy is a significant part of it.
 - Debra Vaughn commented that the executive mentors should be multi-racial/multi-cultural, so the children involved could see successful adults who looked like them.
 - Jeff commented that he would like to see the STARR program attempted in the area that the committee has focused its attention on (Clementon/Pine Hill/Lindenwold).
 - Marlyn stated she would discuss the STARR proposal with Michael Willman.
- Marlyn inquired about future meetings and events. The next meeting would fall on the July 4th holiday, so it has been rescheduled for July 11th. There are currently no events scheduled. Dick Knopf suggested a featured speaker at a future meeting or event. Jeff mentioned that the reopening of the Clementon Library could be an opportunity to hold additional events. Marlyn suggested an event at Winslow's south county branch. She invited ideas for events to plan for the Fall.
- Jeff invited members of the committee to join the WDB staff at its Night Out events.
- Marlyn noted that a Vice Chair is needed for the Literacy Committee and asked everyone to consider accepting the role and to email her to discuss it. Jeff commented that the committee chairs and vice chairs must be members of the private sector.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Jeff Swartz, Executive Director

- The next Quarterly Board Meeting will be on June 21, 2023 at 8:30 am, via Zoom. The agenda includes the election of the slate of new officers and other important business, so a quorum is needed.
- The Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) begins June 26th with a week of work-readiness training. Of 80 plus applicants, 50 available slots were available and filled. The selected participants will be matched as interns at work-learn sites that best fit their interests. They will report to their work-learn sites the week of July 3rd, with the exception of one work site.
- Garden State Education and Training Association (GSETA) will hold its in-person conference in Atlantic City. The event will take place on October 17th and 18th at the Hard Rock Hotel. Online registration is available at www.gseta.org.
- The Abilities Committee will host its veterans resource and hiring event on June 8th at Cooper University Hospital. Seating is limited to 75 people and registration is required. Lunch will be provided by Wawa and parking will be complimentary. The flyer is posted on the WDB website.

ADJOURNMENT

Marlyn asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Dick Knopf and seconded by Chris McKelvey. By majority vote to the affirmative, the motion was carried, and the meeting adjourned at 9:09 am.

NEXT MEETING

The next Literacy Committee meeting will be held Tuesday, July 11, 2023, at 8:30 am via Zoom. Meeting materials and Zoom conferencing information will be distributed prior to the meeting.

Submitted by: Debra Vaughn, Administrative Assistant to the Executive Director