



MINUTES

CareerSource Main Conference Room, 2890 W. Cypress Creek Road, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309

The Committee is reminded of conflict of interest provisions.

SELF-INTRODUCTIONS

ATTENDEES: Steve Tinsley, Francois Leconte. Josie Bacallao via phone. (Dr. Ben Chen, Gary Arenson, Kristin Cavallini-Soothill, Gina Alexis, Michael Carn, Heiko Dobrikow, Dr. Lisa Knowles, and Pam Sands were unable to attend.)

STAFF: Mason Jackson, Carol Hylton, Rochelle Daniels, Michael Bateman, Melanie Magill, and Elizabeth Messler.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the Minutes of the February 5, 2019, meeting of the BWDB Strategic Planning Policy Development Legislative Advocacy Regionalism (SPPDLAR) Committee.

A motion to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2019, BWDB SPPDLAR Committee meeting was made by Francois Leconte and seconded by Josie Bacallao. The BWDB SPPDLAR Committee unanimously approved the February 5, 2019, minutes.

NEW BUSINESS

1. 2020 BWDB State Legislative Agenda

Develop legislative engagement strategies for our 2020 Broward Workforce Development Board (BWDB) State Legislative Agenda. Senate Bill #856 indirectly relates to BWDB agenda item promoting affordable housing. House Bill #6035 indirectly relates to BWDB agenda item on apprenticeship expansion. In addition, community partner legislative agendas are presented for your information.

Mason Jackson presented this year's BWDB State Legislative Agenda. Mr. Jackson emphasized the need to discuss the expectations for BWDB members to become engaged in promoting our legislative strategy. Mr. Jackson stated that although Dr. Ben Chen, Vice-Chair for Legislative Affairs, was unable to attend today's meeting he requested we send him the legislative packets so he can bring them to Tallahassee when he meets with legislators in January.

Mason Jackson pointed out the legislative agenda exhibits. The palm card provides an overview of our 4 major legislative agenda priorities. He indicated that at the urging of the state college system, FWDA's legislative agenda supports recouping tuition costs from apprentices who currently do not have to pay tuition. CSBD's position is that there needs to be more creative ways to pay for apprenticeship programs.

Mr. Jackson noted that the BWDB Legislative Contact Tracker, a spreadsheet that notes which BWDB members have made contacts with certain legislators. Mr. Jackson noted that Dr. Ben Chen suggests that we track bills that relate to our legislative agenda items.

Dr. Steve Tinsley suggested that Mason Jackson provide a brief walk-through of the 2020 BWDB State Legislative Agenda. Mr. Jackson stated that the 4 legislative priorities were presented to the BWDB who established items 1 and 2 as are our top priorities.

Priority 1, Florida Skills Training Allocation, is very similar to a bill introduced by Sen. Oscar Braynon over the past 3 years. The bill originally came from the FWDA, however, never gained legs. Mr. Jackson said that the bill looks at monies assessed by the Department of Revenue for unemployment compensation. Florida businesses currently pay a tax to fund the reemployment/unemployment compensation system.

What we are proposing is that in the years when the reemployment assistance trust fund is flush, a new allocation for a skills training allocation fund would be included giving money back to employers to train unemployed, underemployed or employed workers.

Mason indicated that CSBD is recommending that this money come back to local workforce development boards to use as additional training dollars and that it allow for a lot more flexibility.

Josie Bacallao expressed concern on how to avoid another Sadowski Act scenario, whereby the fund gets raided. Mr. Jackson stated that Gov. Ron DeSantis and the Speaker of the House said last year they did not want to raid Sadowski funds; however, after Hurricane Michael, this was done.

Mr. Jackson said we can advocate that affordable housing is a statewide issue and that we want to ensure all of the dollars go to it. Josie Bacallao raised concern that the Florida Skills Training Allocation will be another flexible fund. Mr. Jackson stated that he will approach the issue with Sen. Oscar Branyon, promoting that the money will not sit there as a fund and instead be distributed to the local boards.

Mason Jackson discussed Priority #3, Continued Apprenticeship Expansion noting that House Bill 7071, passed in the last legislation session, increased our ability to do apprenticeships in non-skilled trades. CSBD is also happy to announce that the state will be providing another apprenticeship grant.

Additionally, we recommend allowing Bright Futures Scholarships to be used to fund apprenticeships and career and technical education.

Lastly, Mr. Jackson discussed the Industry Recognized Apprenticeship Program, a USDOL program that will allow industry groups to come up with their own apprenticeship programs, shorter in length and not registered. CSBD recommends that USDOL keep all the flexibility currently allowed under a USDOL program.

Mason Jackson discussed Priority #4, recommending that Employ Florida be designated as the job and resume bank for the state. While we are aware that other state departments, such as the colleges and universities, are investing in their own job banks, Employ Florida should be the central job bank and they should all connect with us.

Mason Jackson asked the committee to develop a strategy on how to get BWDB members involved in discussing our legislative issues with legislators they feel comfortable contacting.

Carol Hylton pointed out page 25, the Broward Legislative Delegation Directory, was sent in the past to BWDB members and questioned how the committee wanted to do it this year. Ms. Hylton noted that in the past, BWDB members would note which legislators they had a relationship with so that they could champion them on our behalf.

Dr. Steve Tinsley recommended discussing this at the next BWDB meeting and Mason Jackson offered to send it out to the BWDB ahead of time, before the legislative session starts. Mr. Jackson stated that Rep. Cindy Polo's legislative aide mentioned that she is not familiar with CSBD's services, so Mr. Jackson has invited her to meet him at the South Center for a tour.

Dr. Steve Tinsley asked if there are other legislators on key committees like the Workforce Development and Tourism Subcommittee that may not be familiar with our services. Mr. Jackson noted that Rep. Chip LaMarca was on the Florida Workforce Alliance Board and knows about CSBD.

Mr. Jackson knows Representatives Dan Daley, Evan Jenne, Kristin Jacobs, and Bobby Dubose, as well as Senators Perry Thurston and Gary Framer. Mr. Jackson stated that he does not know Reps. Patricia Williams and Anika Omphroy well and is not sure how familiar they are with CSBD.

Dr. Steve Tinsley recommended getting out our legislative contact tracker out to the BWDB as soon as possible to start getting BWDB members signed up for who they will contact.

Mr. Jackson asked Dr. Tinsley if we could give our legislative agenda packet to the Broward County lobbyists and sit down with them so they will be knowledgeable of what we support.

Dr. Tinsley stated that he will work on arranging this. Mr. Jackson stated that he also gave our legislative agenda to the legislative advocacy of the Chamber of Commerce who said they will adopt our issues. Mr. Jackson stated that he will also reach out to the school board lobbyists.

REPORTS

1. **BWDB SPPDLAR Committee Matrix**

SPPDLAR committee matrix, which reflect the committee's objectives and tasks by CSBD for 2019.

Michael Bateman provided an overview of the 2019 SPPDLAR Committee Matrix. It tracks many CSBD activities to support these mutual efforts, and the important documents to support those efforts, such as press releases, the quarterly CSBD Infograph, social media efforts, etc.

Dr. Tinsley noted that entrepreneurship continues to be a growing area of importance for the county. Dr. Tinsley expects a lot more activity on workforce investment and the first source hiring agreement, for which he is working closely with county staff and small businesses to ensure that the Employ Florida portal is being utilized for every workforce investment new hire.

2. CSBD Calendar Year-to-Date Infograph through September 2019

CareerSource Broward's Infograph was created to assist BWDB members with information to discuss with elected officials about CSBD. The infograph summarizes key data points on Labor Market Information; customers served; business services delivered; community involvement; and other numbers for year-to-date calendar 2019.

Michael Bateman noted that the CSBD 2019 Year-End Infograph is distributed to the Broward County Legislative Delegation and BWDB members each quarter.

Dr. Steve Tinsley commented that he especially likes that the infograph gives our Broward County Delegation a sense of the volume of CSBD's interactions. Dr. Tinsley stated the he will have more opportunity in the future to get this information out to legislators. Carol Hylton stated that we are also in the process of revamping the look and feel of the infograph.

3. Broward County Unemployment Information – October 2019

The unemployment rate in Broward County was 2.8 percent in October 2019. Lower by 0.3 percentage point over the year. In October 2019, Broward County's unemployment rate was 0.1 percentage point lower than the state rate (2.9) and 0.5 percent point lower than the national rate (3.3 percent). Out of a labor force of 1,060,485, there were 29,607 unemployed Broward County residents.

Mason Jackson noted that the unemployment rate in Broward County is holding at 2.8 percent. Mr. Jackson stated that while the good news is that there are a lot of jobs, the number one issue is that employers still complain about the difficulty to find good talent.

MATTERS FROM THE SPPDLAR COMMITTEE

None

MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR

None

MATTERS FROM THE PRESIDENT/CEO

None

ADJOURNMENT TIME:

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.