

TOMPKINS COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

October 20, 2020

8:30 A.M.

Zoom Platform

PRESENT: S. Pronti, A. Bishop, D. Burrows, B. Forrest, C. Malcolm, J. Matteson, H. McDaniel, J. Sammons, K. Shanks-Booth, T. Tarshus

EXCUSED: A. Mohamed, L. Dillon, K. Kephart, K. Kersey, J. Lance, O. Montague, D. Pruitt

EX-OFFICIO: A. Hendrix, J. Mouillesseaux

GUESTS: C. Whitmore, Tompkins Cortland Community College; D. Mohlenhoff, Tompkins Cortland Community College; Gary Ferguson, Downtown Ithaca Alliance

STAFF: N. Branosky, D. Achilles, S. Alvord

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Pronti called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

BOARD ACTION ITEMS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 22, 2020

Approval of the action items on the agenda were deferred to the December meeting due to lack of quorum.

WDB DIRECTOR UPDATE

Ms. Branosky reported unemployment rate for Tompkins County is 8 ½ to 10% with approximately 10,000 claims. The Board is partnering with Cornell to have an Employment and Skills strategy for 2021. This strategy will give information of jobs lost, job growth 2021, how many people work from home, understanding of jobs, hire, programs and planning for the future.

INDUSTRY BRIEFING

Industry briefing for the Board meeting was on Hospitality given by Gary Ferguson, Downtown Ithaca Alliance/Restaurants. Mr. Ferguson gave a snapshot on downtown workforce and economy in the downtown area. Mr. Ferguson reported on 8 sectors that have been affected by COVID-19.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mr. Pronti reported the Committee is focusing on the same discussions the full Workforce Board is having: budget reviewing, reviewing unemployment claim statistics, membership and COVID impact.

ONE STOP OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. Bishop reported the Career Center is still closed, waiting for guidance from NYSDOL to reopen. The Career Center staff is still serving customers by phone a being creative of new ways to serve the community. The committee is working on Career Center re-certification with the State for 2021.

YOUTH OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Ms. Shanks-Booth reported the committee is meeting regularly and bringing SYEP to a conclusion.

GOVERNANCE AND MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Mr. Burrows reported the committee has done outreach to the final two seats on the board: NYSDOL – Wagner Peyser is an appointed seat by NYSDOL and will remain open at this time due to COVID; Labor position the committee is waiting on a response. Ms. Branosky reported that Tompkins Cortland Community College is a required partner and will be appointing a new staff member to represent them on the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:33 a.m.