

MEETING TITLE: Fulton County Workforce Development Board Meeting
MEETING DATE: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 **MEETING TIME:** 8:00 A.M.
LOCATION: ZOOM
MEETING SCRIBE: Alexis Leonard **EMAIL:** alexis.leonard@fultoncountyga.gov

BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDANCE:

Albritten, Andrea: Present	Macke, Andy: Present	Stepakoff, Jeff: Absent
Bell, Mike: Absent	Nickerson, Amelia: Present	Stokes, Fabiola Charles: Excused
Boatright, Kali: Present	Reid, Brent: Present	Absence
Collins, Jim: Present	Rooks, Stephanie: Present	Thompson, Dr. Lanze: Present
Cook, Tom: Present	Ruder, Alex: Present	Tuggle, Anthony: Present
Darden Beauford, Yulonda: Present	Scott, Elizabeth: Present	Washington, Regynald: Excused Absence
Dover, Sanquinetta: Present	Schofield, Kim: Present	Wences, Juan: Present
Ekanemesang, Itohowo: Present	Seems, David: Present	

1. **Call to Order**
 Meeting called to order by A. Macke at 8:04 A.M.
2. **Roll Call:**
 Roll call by A. Leonard, LWDB Board Liaison. The presence of quorum met.
3. **Opening and Introductions**
 Chairperson Macke opened the board meeting welcomed all attendees, with brief introductions of the LWDB members following.
4. **Public Comment**
 No Public comments.
5. **Regular Agenda**
 - I. **Regular Agenda:**
 Chairperson Macke requested a motion to accept the regular agenda.
Motioned: A. Nickerson **Seconded:** S. Rooks
Required Action: N/A
Motion Acceptance/Declination: The motion was approved for the adoption of the agenda, as is, by a unanimous vote. All in favor. No oppositions. No abstentions. The motion carried accepting the regular agenda as presented.
 - II. **Adoption of August 18, 2020 LWDB Meeting Minutes:**
 Chairperson Macke requested a motion to adopt the August 18, 2020, LWDB Meeting Minutes as presented.
Required Action: N/A
Motioned: S. Dover **Seconded:** S. Rooks
Motion Acceptance/Declination: The motion was approved for the adoption of the August 18, 2020 LWDB Meeting Minutes, as is, by a unanimous vote. All in favor. No oppositions. No abstentions. The motion carried accepting the adoption of August 18, 2020 LWDB Meeting Minutes as presented.

6. Director's Report

Workforce Response to COVID-19

B. Lacy, WorkSource Fulton Division Manager, provided a director's report on the impacts of COVID-19 on WorkSource Fulton. As of September, Fulton County is at an 8.3% unemployment rate. 78% of workers in the county have filed for unemployment at least once. 6200 job ads in 744 different occupations have been posted in the last 30 days, mostly in I.T. and healthcare. The total number of postings is down in comparison to the previous quarter, which mirrors the increase in the unemployment rate. Data included in the board presentation.

A surge in customers was expected to come in August when the pandemic assistance unemployment was ended. There was a spike in August and September program enrollments. Enrollment decreased back to its normal rate in October. Because of labor conditions, participants have not been exited. Overall results, enrollment has continued to climb to over 600 participants. Youth enrollment is still slow due to a lack of consistent access to technology. Career centers are closed, creating a barrier to computer access. The mobile career unit is now in use to help bridge the gap, and WorkSource Fulton is the first to do so. The schedule for the mobile unit is available at selectfultoncounty.com. The Facebook ad campaign targeting potential customers were very successful. Data can be provided upon request. The ad campaign on LinkedIn targeted employers in efforts to increase interest in Work-based learning opportunities.

SARA software is now in use as of two weeks ago. More than half of the clients have opted in to receive information from SARA. Customers are now able to submit documentation through SARA as needed. During two weeks of access, SARA has generated more than 4000 case notes for customer files and sent over 4000 unique messages to clients. This helps alleviate the administrative functions of the advisor and allows them to focus more on the customer.

7. Committee Reports and Recommendations

Performance & Accountability Committee:

S. Rooks, Chairperson of the Performance & Accountability Committee, provided the committee report. The Performance & Accountability Committee reviewed the current LWDB Bylaws. Section 188 states the LWDB is responsible for providing information as well as assist with providing programmatic and physical access to the services, programs, and activities of the One-Stop delivery system, as well as appropriate training for staff on providing supports for or accommodations to, and finding employment opportunities for, individuals with disabilities. Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Association representative, I. Ekanemesang, stated there is a referral process through the One-Stop facilities if a client documents disabilities. S. Rooks and I. Ekanemesang will touch base at a later date to discuss the process in detail. A. Macke requests that the staff and Performance and Accountability Committee determine if the requirements are being met and how. An update is to be provided at the next board meeting.

Youth Committee:

Y. Darden- Beauford, Chairperson of Youth Committee, provided the Youth Standing Committee report. The Community Based Organization Roundtable meeting took place in early October. A total of thirteen youth partnerships have been created. The Youth Committee is working to establish a referral and tracking process and creating a partnership resource sharing agreement. The next roundtable meeting is on December 8th.

Career Compass academy was created to improve the work-readiness of youth. It is also a career exploration program that focuses on the healthcare and I.T. Industries. The new cohort began in October. Two youth that participated in the program spoke at the roundtable meeting. They expressed that they have enjoyed the program and suggest that more information is put out to let other youths know that the programs exist as most are unaware. The Youth Committee will continue its efforts in developing youth partnership and will provide an update at the next board meeting.

Finance Committee Report:

B. Reid, Chairperson of the Finance Committee, provided the committee report. The committee continues to meet on its monthly schedule. Expenditures were reviewed, and the committee determined funds are on track to be expensed in the required time frame. The committee is also working to determine the cost per client and how the money is allocated. An update will be shared at the next board meeting.

Strategic Partnerships and Outreach Committee:

A. Nickerson, Chairperson of the Strategic Partnerships and Outreach Committee, provided the committee report. The Strategic Partnerships and Outreach Committee has established a relationship with the Ticket to Work program. Ticket to Work is for persons receiving disability income to help them gain skills and limit reliance on the income. It is a voluntary program meaning participants must opt-in. WorkSource Fulton is looking to partner with ARC's board to implement the program. Ideally, there would be a staff person to work directly with the participants to connect them to work opportunities. There would be an agreement to cost-share and revenue share. In Fulton County, there are currently 9500 S.S.D.I. recipients and 8200 S.S.I. recipients. Generally, 20% are considered work-ready, and they would be the target audience. The first year, current resources available at ARC would be used, and depending on how many clients are being served under Fulton County, a decision will be made to either continue to resource share or to bring on a staff member specifically for Fulton County clients. This program will assist in meeting the requirements under Section 188 in the bylaws. An update on the next steps will be provided at the next board meeting.

Executive Committee Report:

Ratification of the WorkSource Metro Atlanta Regional Plan

Chairperson A. Macke provided the Executive Committee Report. The State was working to solidify their plan, putting the regional plan on hold to ensure alignment of the two. A copy of the WorkSource Metro Atlanta Regional Plan is included in the board packet. Chairperson Macke requested a motion to ratify the WorkSource Metro Atlanta Regional Plan as presented.

Required Action: No further action required

Motioned: S. Dover **Seconded:** Y. Darden Beauford

Motion Acceptance/Declination: The motion was approved to ratify the WorkSource Metro Atlanta Regional Plan by a unanimous vote of the board members. All in favor. No oppositions. No abstentions. The motion carried the ratification of the WorkSource Metro Atlanta Regional Plan as presented.

2021 LWDB Meeting Schedule

A copy of the 2021 LWDB Meeting Schedule is included in the board packet. Chairperson Macke requested a motion to adopt the 2021 LWDB Meeting Schedule as presented.

Required Action: No further action required

Motioned: S. Dover **Seconded:** T. Cook

Motion Acceptance/Declination: The motion was approved to accept the 2021 LWDB Meeting Schedule by a unanimous vote of the board members. All in favor. No oppositions. No abstentions. The motion carried accepting the 2021 Meeting Schedule as presented.

8. Chairperson Report

No Report.

9. Greater North Fulton Chamber Economic Recovery Task Force

M. Fernandez provided a report highlighting the Greater North Fulton Chamber Economic Recovery Task Force.

10. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

The next meeting is scheduled for February 16th. The location will be determined at a later date, pending changes due to COVID-19

Meeting adjourned by Chairperson Macke at 8:51 A.M.