

DAVIDSONWORKS BOARD ANNUAL MEETING
Minutes

- DATE:** Thursday, August 30, 2018
- TIME:** 8:00 A.M.
- PLACE:** Yarbrough's Restaurant
- MEMBERS:** Board Chair – Neal Grimes, Vice Chair-Jane Murphy, Kevin Chapman, Lee Comer, Craig Goodson, Randy Everhart, Darrick Horton, Brian Hughes, LeeAnn Tuttle-Thomas, Dan Mathews, Richard Michaels, Steve Moore. Sandy Motley, Pat Phillips, Hal Routh, Mike Sharpe, Barry Sink, and Derrick Swink
- MEMBERS ABSENT:** Kat Barrier, Scott Biesecker, Don Clinard, Steve Googe, David Davis, Stacy English, Eddie Lothridge, Fred McClure, Jeff McIntyre, Dale Moorefield, Dr. Mary Rittling, Steve Shell, and Ellen Welborn
- STAFF:** Pam Walton, Tim Maness, Beth Mitchell, Eric Torrence, Brenda Brown, Patsy Swain, and Sondra Willis
- GUESTS:** Jim Crawford, Business Liaison at Yadkin Valley Career Academy; Catherine Gentry, Superintendent for Thomasville Schools; Dr. Emily Lipe, Superintendent for Davidson County Schools; Nicole Piggott, Lexington City School CTE, and Kent Beck, Lexington Chambers.
- SUCCESS STORY GUESTS:** **Participants:** Allison Hughes, Conner Burhans, and Tonya Younts
- HANDOUTS:** Agenda Booklet/ Minutes/ Educational Committee Handout/ WDB Guide Book for members

RECAP of August 30, 2018 Meeting

1. WDB Board Chair-Neal Grimes called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for his or her attendance
2. Minutes from the May 31, 2018 were approved
3. Revision to the Workforce Development By-Laws – Education Committee
4. WDB voted to reestablish the Education Committee
5. Success stories were celebrated with DavidsonWorks special guests
6. Neal Grimes & Pam Walton recognized and thanked staff, partners, and Board members

I. Welcome

Board Chair – Neal Grimes called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for his or her attendance. Neal also gave the invocation.

II. Business Session

While Breakfast was being served, Neal Grimes, recognized our success story participants: Allison Hughes; Conner Burhans; Conner's mother, Mary Burhans; and Tonya Younts.

Neal also recognized special guests: Dr. Catherine Gentry, Thomasville City Schools Superintendent; Dr. Emily Lipe, Davidson County Schools Superintendent; Nicole Piggott, CTE Director, Lexington City Schools; Kent Beck, Lexington Chambers of Commerce.

Neal acknowledged new WDB members: Kat Berrier, CEO, American Children's Home; Craig Goodson, Director Davidson County Economic Development Commission; Darrick Horton, Director Davidson County Community Action; Brian Hughes, HR Director, Lowes MillWorks; and Derrick Swink, CEO, Swink Welding.

Vote on Minutes

Minutes from the May 31, 2018 meeting were approved.

Revision to the By-Laws

The Executive Committee called together a group of Board members to discuss revitalizing the Education Committee. Neal gave the WDB a handout from that meeting stating the purpose and the conditions of the Educational Committee.

The purpose of the Education Committee is to advocate for a unified vision between educational and economic development partners, and to strengthen education in Davidson County, which in turn will strengthen the total education process and improve student achievement and career readiness.

Neal informed the WDB of how active the Education Committee was in the past and how successful they were in collaboration with one another. During this meeting, a few board members expressed their support to reestablish the Education Committee. One member reminded the committee that the Workforce Development Board had a hand in assisting with the foundation of the Yadkin Valley Academy.

Neal asked the WDB to vote on reestablishing the Educational Committee and revise this in the by-laws. The WDB members voted to approve the reestablishment of the Education Committee.

III. Celebrating Success

Presentations were made highlighting the successes of the DavidsonWorks Workforce Development program participants.

Youth Teen Success – Allison Hughes

Eric Torrence - Career Development Consultant, introduced Allison Hughes, a youth participant in the Get REAL Program.

Allison Hughes enrolled in the Get REAL Program January 2018. She was previously enrolled in Enlighten Academy, an online high school completion program out of Spokane, Washington. While enrolled there she completed five credits and those credits transferred into the Get REAL Program.

Allison qualified for the adult high school program with her TABE scores being 12.9 in Reading, Math, and Language. She needed 18 credits to complete her high school diploma. Since enrolling in January, Allison has completed five credits and is working on four more.

Allison is working at the Lexington YMCA in the Daycare, the job she held prior to enrolling in Get REAL. She is presently our Student Government Association president and is also

participating in the ACA 090 Student Success Strategies Class at DCCC twice a week. This class helps students with skills and strategies to promote success in college, career, and life.

Allison has been a positive role model since enrolling into the program. She has a willingness to help staff and fellow classmates. Allison helps with all SGA activities and comes to school on a regular basis. Her leadership skills are shown each week as she conducts meetings with Ms. Brown and Mr. Torrence on activities from the student body. Allison is a WIOA participant and will be sponsored by DavidsonWorks when she completes her high school diploma and seeks secondary opportunities.

Adult/Dislocated Worker Success – Tonya Younts

Pam Walton - DavidsonWorks Director, introduced Tonya Younts who was a Dislocated Worker participant in a WIOA sponsored training program.

In January 2016 at the NC Works Center – Lexington, I was introduced to Tonya Younts, the wife of Randy Younts, an Army Airborne veteran and mother of two sons (then 19 & 21 years old). After getting laid off from a secretarial job, a profession that she had worked in for 25+ years, she was ready for a change.

Tonya felt like it was time to reinvent herself. She said one of her natural talents that she enjoyed was giving massages to her family. That fall, 2016, Tonya enrolled in the Therapeutic Massage program at DCCC. During her two years in the AAS program, some of the classes were extremely challenging, but she worked hard and persevered, graduating in May 2018.

Since November, Tonya has been putting her newfound skills to work at Hands on Health Massage & Physical Therapy in High Point. She makes \$20.00 per hour, plus tips, and is loves the new life she “reinvented” for herself. It has been a true honor being part of Tonya’s transformation.

Adult Success – Connor Burhans

Pam Walton - DavidsonWorks Director, introduced Connor Burhans who was an Adult participant in a WIOA sponsored training program.

During my first meeting with Conner, he told me he had briefly attended Forsyth Technical Community College, however was not really interested in continuing with school; his focus was on trying to find a job. Although he had worked with his father some, he had never held a job outside of that experience.

I administered the TABE and CareerScope assessment tests. These assessments would be an indicator of his interests as well as his level of aptitude. He scored extremely well on the TABE assessment, which includes math, language, and reading. The results of his CareerScope assessment indicated Conner has an artistic, scientific, and business detail type of interest, as well as a very high level of general learning ability and it was at this point that Conner and I discussed our Work Experience program. I thought this would be an excellent way for Conner to get some hands-on experience in a real work environment. Conner was interested in pursuing this opportunity and his mother was supportive as well.

I reached out to Barry Sink, who owns Olde Lexington Products, and happens to also be on our

Workforce Development Board. Barry was agreeable to act as a worksite for Conner's work experience; his duties would be priming wood products, cleaning, and any other duties as assigned. Conner also learned soft skills, such as being on time and keeping up with his time sheet. After Barry contacted me with some concerns about safety, I referred Conner to Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) to see if they could assist him with finding a job better suited to him.

Vocational Rehabilitation continued to work with Conner in finding a good placement that would better fit his abilities and interests. Ultimately, he was hired permanently at Food Lion in Kernersville. However, because of the relationship he built with Barry Sink, he still works on an as-needed basis at Olde Lexington Products.

Conner has come a long way from the shy young man with very little confidence. I feel the work experience was a huge opening for him to blossom and with the help of our partner, VR, and one of our board members, Connor has definitely become more confident.

Certificates were given and pictures were taken of each participant with the WDB Chair Neal Grimes.

IV. Closing Remarks

Neal thanked everyone for attending this year's WDB Annual meeting to recognize some of Davidsonworks' success stories.

Neal recognized all of the hard work that the staff at DavidsonWorks does to help the citizens of Davidson County. Neal thanked all of the partner agencies and participants.

Pam thanked the participants and the members of the Workforce Development Board for supporting the programs of DavidsonWorks.

Adjournment

Time having expired, and the meeting was adjourned.