

DAVIDSONWORKS BOARD MEETING
Minutes

- DATE:** Thursday, October 27, 2016
- TIME:** 8:00 A.M.
- PLACE:** Davidson County Community College
- MEMBERS:** Board Chair-Neal Grimes, Lee Comer, Steve Googe, Dan Matthews, Sandy Motley, Jeff McIntyre, Richard Michaels, Jim Price, Dr. Mary Rittling, Hal Routh, Ellen Welborn, Barry Sink, Richard Michaels, and Steve Shell
- MEMBERS ABSENT:** Vice Chair-Jane Murphy, Scott Biesecker, Don Clinard, David Davis, Kevin Chapman, Stacy English, Dr. Russ Gobble, Gene Klump, Steve Lineberger, Steve Moore, Eddie Lothridge, Dale Moorefield, Pat Phillips, Mike Sharpe, Fred McClure, Dr. Lory Morrow, Cheryl Walser, and Buck Yarborough
- STAFF:** Pam Walton, Beth Mitchell, Tim Maness, Cris Waugh, Eric Torrence, Cheryl Lide, and Sondra Willis
- GUESTS:** Business Liaison at Yadkin Valley Career Academy, Jim Crawford; Thomasville Councilwoman, Wendy Sellars; and Davidson County Schools Director of Secondary Ed. Tabitha Broadway
- HANDOUTS:** Minutes/ Newspaper Article by Lee Comer

RECAP of October 27, 2016 Meeting

1. Board Chair-Neal Grimes called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for his or her attendance
2. Minutes from the August 25, 2016 were approved
3. Business updates by Tim Maness
4. Disability Employment Awareness by Richard Michaels
5. DavidsonWorks new website by Pam Walton
6. Committee updates

I. Welcome / Introductions / Approval of Minutes

Board Chair – Neal Grimes called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for his or her attendance. Neal noted that The Dispatch featured a wonderful article by one of our WDB members, Lee Comer, highlighting the Workforce Development Board Annual Meeting participants, the DavidsonWorks staff and how the services offered through DavidsonWorks help the citizens of Davidson County. (See attached)

Minutes from the August 25, 2016 meeting were approved.

II. Business Updates

Apprenticeship

Tim stated that there is a focus on community colleges and the workforce development boards to collaborate on apprenticeships. Tim is working with Carolyn Davis at DCCC on this focus; they are planning a forum in the spring to attract more businesses in Davidson County to participate in apprenticeship. Tim extended this invitation to the Board members, and said that he will send more information closer to the forum.

Morning Business Brew

Tim stated that DavidsonWorks is planning to host the Morning Business Brew with the Lexington Chambers. The tentative date is Thursday, December 15th. The purpose of this event is to explain the purpose of the NCWorks Career Centers, partnership with DWS, and the services offered. Through this event, Tim hope to help more folks in our community to know who we are and what we do to better serve them. More information will be provided closer to the date.

III. Disability Employment Awareness

Richard Michaels - Business Relations Representative for Vocational Rehabilitation (VR), spoke to the board about disability employment. October is National Employee Disability Awareness Month. In 1945, Congress enacted a law declaring the 1st week in October being “National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week”. In 1988, Congress extended this week to a month and changed the name to Disability Employment Awareness Month.

Richard stated that since he has been employed with VR (2003), they have partnered with DavidsonWorks. VR works with people who have a disability and desire to be employed. VR helps them to be a self-sufficient, and an active part of our community. Richard always tells businesses he works with if they will hire people that he recommends, he ensures them that he is at their disposal at any time for any reason. He will always work with them to ensure the people he places are working well.

Some of the services that VR can provide to businesses are: answer questions on ADA, sensitivity training, conduct a training called “Windmills”, assessments, job coaching, Job Club, OJT, help with tax credits, and they have an evaluator who can help with creating a job description.

Richard is located at the NCWorks Career Centers a few days during the week; there he helps customers who visit the center who may have a disability or by referral. Keep in mind that VR’s services are *free*.

Richard made time for Q&A.

Richard gave his business cards to Board members, and asked them to give special consideration towards people who are seeking employment who may have challenges. The local VR office serves Davidson, Davie, and Randolph Counties.

IV. Website Update

The new and updated website is in response to Steve Lineberger's visit with the Executive Committee Meeting on ways to help market DavidsonWorks and help the people of Davidson County understand who we are and what we do.

Winnow Creative, is the new web-builder and host. They have built other WDB websites in the area, and therefore, all of the websites will have a standard look. Sondra Willis, the Davidson County WDB Administrator, will be trained on the site, and have the ability to post any information that the Board needs posting. The site is now live, the domain remains the same – www.davidsonworks.org. There are future plans to add videos of our customers to the site.

Pam asked Board members to look over the website, if there is anything they would like to change, to let her or Sondra know.

V. Committee Updates

Youth Council

The next Youth Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 3rd at Noon, in the DavidsonWorks Conference room.

Get REAL End of Year Celebration

Get REAL will have their end of year celebration, Neal encouraged the Board members to come out and be a part of this event, in December. Sondra will send more detail information closer to the date.

VI. Remarks

Wage Increase

Jeff McIntyre noted that he has increased wages for unskilled workers within his company from \$7.50 to \$10.00 per hour, this has helped with retaining workers. Jeff stated that this is something that is going to happen and encouraged other businesses to do the same.

McIntyre Metals has changed their name to McIntyre Manufacturing Group starting November 1st. The name change reflects their growth and capability expansion.

Valley Academy

Jim Crawford stated that on Thursday, December 1st, from 5pm-7pm, Valley Academy is having their big event of the year "Super Bowl Exhibition Night". Jim invited the WDB to attend – it will be an opportunity to see the school, and to meet and talk with the students. Also, learn how these students are developing to meet the workforce needs of Davidson County.

Yadkin Valley has their first Super Senior Class who will be attending DCCC full-time. These students will graduate having Associates Degrees in Applied Science in addition to their diploma.

Pam introduced DavidsonWorks newest Office Support person, Cheryl Lide, she started on October 3, 2016. Cheryl is a former customer of DavidsonWorks, and participated in a work experience.

Next meeting

The next WDB meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2017.

Adjournment

Time having expired; the meeting was adjourned.