

FOOTHILL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING

Virtual Zoom Meeting

MINUTES OF MARCH 17, 2021 FWDB MEETING

INTRODUCTION AND ROLL CALL

The Foothill Workforce Development Board Chair, Dan Lien, welcomed the board members, staff members and guests and called the meeting to order at 9:03a.m.

Present - FWDB

Dan J. Lien, Chair, DJL Professional Services
Salvatrice Cummo, Pasadena City College
Shomari Davis, IBEW Local 11
Hector Delgado, Teamsters Local Union No.396
Elia Evans, UEI College
Flint Fertig, Monrovia Unified School District
John Frala, Rio Hondo College
Steven Gutierrez, Rager's Abbey Flooring & Window Covering
Victor LaGroom, City of Hope
Denise McKnight, Department of Rehabilitation
Betty McWilliams, Foothill Unity Center, Inc.
Sandra Mejia, M & R Professional Services
Helen Romero-Shaw, Southern Gas Company
Tom Selinske, FocusOut LLC
Brenda Trainor, Frontier Trail, Inc.
Laurie Wheeler, South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce

Absent - FWDB

Keshia Bowen, Simply Divine
Tony de Trinidad, Painters & Allied Trades DC 36
Robert Helbing, Air Tro, Inc.
Gene Hurd, UAW Local 509
Michael Wangler, Citrus College

Staff Present

Dianne Russell-Carter, FWDB Executive Director, Susanne Ko, Rita Magno, Julie McElrath, Sarah Mendoza, Rey Okamoto, and David Eder

Guests Present

Rachelle Arizmendi, FETC Policy Board Chair/Mayor, City of Sierra Madre
Michelle Pride-Bankston, Department of Rehabilitation
David Baquerizo, ProPath Inc.
Anthony Crouch, Employment Development Department
Eric Duyshart, City of Pasadena
Diana Ling, Department of Rehabilitation

David Shinder, Consultant
Vinh Truong, City of Duarte
Nona Yegiazaryan, Employment Development Department
Evelyn Zneimer, City of South Pasadena

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the November 4, 2020 meeting were approved as submitted.

M/S Wheeler/Selinske Approved

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Dan Lien called the meeting to order at 9:03 am, called for the roll call of members and briefly introduced and welcomed the new FETC Policy Board Member from South Pasadena, Councilmember Evelyn Zneimer.

Chair Lien mentioned that the focus of this meeting will be about the FWDB Local Plan that will be presented by Consultant, David Shinder.

He then reported that the City of Monrovia is leaving the six-city FETC Policy Board Consortium and has officially filed an application to join the Los Angeles Development Board. Chair Lien intoned that this was disheartening news as FWDB, consistently recognized as a High Performing Board, has long been hard at work in service of the six-city consortium in a fair and equitable manner. He stated that it is unfortunate that incorrect data/numbers and the inaccurate delivery of information was used to convince certain decision makers to pull out of the Foothill consortium.

In closing, Chair Lien expressed his appreciation to all board members, Dianne Russell-Carter, Eric Duyshart of the City of Pasadena and FWDB staff for making FWDB move forward amidst the challenges.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director, Dianne Russell-Carter started her report by welcoming South Pasadena Councilmember, Evelyn Zneimer and City of Duarte Councilmember, Vinh Truong. They are the two new FETC Policy Board members.

Dianne Russell-Carter talked about the report from Los Angeles Economic Development Council (LAEDC) 2021 Economic Forecast: A Tale of Two Recoveries. This article puts a spotlight on the two different worlds in LA County which is a tale of two recoveries, those who are faring better and those who see their economic security decreasing. This highlights the disparity in LA and Dianne Russell-Carter emphasizes that there needs to be more equality; there needs to be more inclusion,

and more diversity. In line with this, she reported that the FWDB's Diversity and Inclusion Ad Hoc Committee is chaired by Victor Lagroon, City of Hope, and through Board member Brenda Trainor's suggestion, this committee will now be called "IDEA" for Inclusion, Diversity, Equity for All.

ONE-STOP OPERATOR UPDATE – David Baquerizo, ProPath Inc.

David Baquerizo, President of ProPath Inc. reported that he identified some partners in the community that can help provide some of our services. These two organizations are Unite Us and Tooling-U. The Unite Us system is a referral system utilized by communities nationwide. It is designed to increase recruitment efforts by having hundreds of other community agencies within the referral system process.


The other partner is an organization called Tooling-U. They are a training organization that has been instrumental in a lot of incumbent worker training in California. He referred the board attendees to the attached informational materials in the meeting packet.

PRESENTATION – Vision for the Workforce Board

David Shinder, Workforce Consultant, modulated the discussion on the Local Plan for FWDB. He reported that the FWDB 4-Year Local Workforce Plan must be submitted to the State no later than April 30, 2021. The FWDB Local Plan will cover July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2025.

David Shinder emphasized that the Local Plan should address FWDB's strategic vision to support economic growth and economic self-sufficiency over the next four years. After a substantive and highly informative exchange of ideas and inputs from various board members, David Shinder concluded that localizing the local plan is the best strategy for customers to make services more equitable and for improving opportunities for the customers to move toward economic self-sufficiency.

After a roundtable of announcements, Chair Dan Lien adjourned the meeting at 10:44 a.m.

Signed: 
Dianne Russell-Carter
Executive Director