PHOENIX BUSINESS AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

BUSINESS AND WORKFORCE ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

**VIRTUAL MEETING**

**July 16, 2020**

**9:00 a.m.**

**Members Present:**

Susan Ciardullo

Nick DePorter

James Frolov

Kaaren-Lyn Graves

Fred Lockhart

Jesus Love

Brandon Ramsey

Brenda Schmidt

Patrick Winters

**Public Attendees:**

Robert Cain

Rodrigo Dorador

Christina Edwards

Stan Flowers

Ali-Gamero Hernandez

LaSetta Hogans (PBWDB Exec. Dir.)

Hayden Maynard

James Montoya

Christina Quijada

Demitria Robles

Rob Stenson

Kweilin Waller

Action items taken are noted in **bold** print.

1. **Call to Order / Roll Call / Introductions:**

The Business and Workforce Engagement Committee (BWEC) Chair, Jesus Love, called the July 16, 2020 meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. Roll call was completed and a quorum of nine members were present. BWEC Chair, Jesus Love asked the members of the newly convened committee and the public to introduce themselves.

1. **Approval of June 18, 2020 Business Engagement Committee Meeting Minutes:**

BWEC Chair Jesus Love asked that verbiage be clarified regarding the Workforce Collaborative meeting City of Phoenix (COP) Community and Economic Development Department (CEDD) Director Chris Mackey presented at.

BWEC Member Kaaren-Lyn Graves motioned for approval of the June 18, 2020 Business Engagement Committee (BEC) minutes with noted edits, BWEC Ad-Hoc Member Patrick Winters seconded.

**Susan Ciardullo, Nick DePorter, James Frolov, Fred Lockhart, Jesus Love, Brandon Ramsey, and Brenda Schmidt voted to approve. No members were opposed.**

1. **Ad-Hoc Member Application Review:**

BWEC Chair Jesus Love shared that Robert Cain and Ali Gamero-Hernandez applied to join the committee as ad-hoc members. He asked each applicant to introduce themselves to the committee and introduce their candidacy.

Robert Cain shared he is interested in serving on the committee after being introduced to ARIZONA@WORK, through a seminar he presented in 2019. At the seminar he learned about ARIZONA@WORK wage-based learning and how businesses can work with ARIZONA@WORK to hire and train employees. Working for Oppty Unlimited, he has collaborated with St. Joseph the Worker and enjoyed the opportunity to work with individuals to find employment and serve the community. He’s also worked with organizations to streamline processes and run an end-to-end platform.

Ali Gamero-Hernandez shared that she previously served as a PBWD Board member and was a member of the Service Delivery Committee (SDC) and the Business Engagement Committee. As a board member and an employee of the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES) she has served both jobseekers and employers through ARIZONA@WORK and believes in the opportunity to create and support programs to continue to serve both. Ali shared that she wants to see the ARIZONA@WORK regional efforts continue and she supports these efforts in her role, and she would like to influence other Arizona Local Area Boards through her work with ARIZONA@WORK City of Phoenix.

**BWEC Member Susan Ciardullo motioned that Ali Gamero-Hernandez be invited to join the Business and Workforce Development Committee as an ad-hoc member, BWEC Member Kaaren-Lyn Graves seconded.**

**Nick DePorter, James Frolov, Fred Lockhart, Jesus Love, Brandon Ramsey, Brenda Schmidt, and Patrick Winters voted to approve. No members were opposed.**

**BWEC Ad-Hoc Member Patrick Winters motioned that Robert Cain be invited to join the Business and Workforce Development Committee as an ad-hoc member, BWEC Vice-Chair Brandon Ramsey seconded.**

**Susan Ciardullo, Nick DePorter, James Frolov, Kaaren-Lyn Graves, Fred Lockhart, Jesus Love, and Brenda Schmidt voted to approve. No members were opposed.**

1. **Business and Workforce Engagement Committee Strategic Plan Review:**

BWEC Chair Jesus Love shared the strategic plan scorecard with the BWEC and explained that the new committee goals, strategies, and actions were driven by the strategic plan created after the PBWDB strategic planning session conducted earlier in 2020. The BWEC goal is to drive economic mobility and impact through connecting education, talent, and business to create an effective talent pipeline.

Jesus review the three committee strategies included in the scorecard and the actions and metrics associated with the strategies. The BWEC will monitor the progress toward goals and will adjust the timelines, as necessary. PBWD Board Executive Director LaSetta Hogans shared that the committee can adjust actions and metrics if they do not support the identified measures.

**BWEC Member Kaaren-Lyn Graves left the meeting at 10:07 am.**

1. **Bagels and Business Event Planning:**

BWEC Chair Jesus Love shared that the previous committee called Business Engagement Committee (BEC) decided on June 18, 2020 to plan a September 16, 2020 virtual Bagels and Business event. Jesus asked the BWEC which topics they felt they should explore. BWEC Member Susan Ciardullo suggested a event connecting healthcare employers to the talent pipeline, as the healthcare sector was already experiencing employment shortages before the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the COVID-19 crisis, schools that specialize in training healthcare employees have temporarily closed and students are unable to get certified because they are unable to get hands-on experience. ARIZONA@WORK City of Phoenix Business Engagement Team Supervisor Rob Stenson shared that healthcare employers are having a difficult time attracting new jobseekers, especially in environmental services positions. He suggested there might be a pipeline between dislocated hospitality workers into environmental services positions. BWEC Vice-Chair Brandon Ramsey shared that Insight Global is engaging in discussions about what returning post-COVID-19 to work will look like and what changes are being made to make workplaces safer for returning employees.

Rob suggested that the Bagels and Business event include healthcare professionals that are focused on workforce attraction from healthcare employers, with a focus on attracting small-to-mid-sized healthcare employers to, allowing them to learn how the larger healthcare businesses are attracting employees in the COVID-19 environment and how to be more proactive in their hiring processes. Brandon said that a targeted healthcare focus and adding a technology piece that introduces policies that healthcare providers - including people working at care facilities, therapy centers, and providers working with people with disabilities - are using to protect their customers and their employees. This will introduce smaller healthcare employers to ARIZONA@WORK services. Brandon suggested creating topic outlines to give to the presenters centered on workplace, recruitment, and technology so that the panelists adhere to the program structure. ARIZONA@WORK City of Phoenix Workforce Supervisor Stan Flowers suggested connecting employers to cohort models. Susan suggested focusing on allied health positions, because those are entry-level positions.

Jesus shared that for previous Bagels and Business events, a workgroup has been convened to plan and finalize the event and asked if members would volunteer for the workgroup. Susan Ciardullo, James Frolov, Brenda Schmidt, and Fred Lockhart volunteered to assist in planning the event.

1. **Committee Update Report:**

BWEC Chair Jesus Love shared that he would include information to the Committee Report: The September 16, 2020 Bagels & Business event that will focus on the healthcare talent pipeline and safely returning to work, the review of the new strategic plan, and inviting Robert Cain and Ali Gamero-Hernandez to join the BWEC as ad-hoc members.

1. **Matters for Future Discussion:**

None

1. **Call to The Public & Open Discussion:**

None

1. **Adjournment:**

**BWEC Vice-Chair Brandon Ramsey motioned to adjourn the meeting, BWEC Member Nick DePorter seconded.**

**Susan Ciardullo, James Frolov, Fred Lockhart, Jesus Love, Brenda Schmidt, and Patrick Winters approved the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 10:51 a.m.**