

Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board, Conference Room B
41 Lewis Street, Geneva, NY 14456
Friday, September 28, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

ATTENDANCE: **Members:** B. Aronson, L. Freid, S. Griffin, S. Handel, M. Laursen, T. Lambie, G. Maine, A. McGraw, M. Manikowski, J. Weaver
Staff: Karen Springmeier, Michael Woloson, Jennifer May

I. Non-Traditional Workforce Discussion

Mr. Manikowski stated that the primary issue is lack of workers, and non-traditional employees may be key. These employees may be formerly incarcerated or people involved with agencies who offer support services for individuals with disabilities. Mr. Woloson mentioned that Personal Skills for Success is now being offered in area jails, readying inmates to become employees and familiarizing them with services offered by the career centers. Mr. Maine stated that fifty percent of high school equivalency students have a criminal history. Ms. Laursen explained the federal bonding program, which allows for protection for employers who wish to hire an individual with a criminal history.

ACTION ITEM: Ms. Laursen to provide Mr. Woloson with federal bonding information for dissemination.

II. State of the Workforce Report Follow Up

Mr. Manikowski suggested that a map of the workforce system and partners be created, possibly with the help of another intern. With the many agencies and organizations involved in the system, individuals can get lost in the shuffle and efforts could be duplicated, when they should be concentrated. Also suggested was more scoring matrix to track how funds are being spent

III. Transportation Follow Up

A survey will be sent to area businesses, questioning their issues with transportation for employees and suggestions for how those issues are resolved. Findings from the survey will be shared with this committee.

IV. Recent Announcements Layoffs and Closings

Mr. Manikowski mentioned the Tops location in Geneva closing and IT employees of Xerox being laid off. Ms. Springmeier also spoke of Sears and the Marion location of Seneca Foods closing.

V. Economic/Workforce Development Updates

In Geneva, Real Eats will be opening and the expanded Apple store will open at Eastview Mall. Ms. Handel referred to the solar project with Solar Advocates in Wayne County not proceeding and the Silver Hill land agreement with IEC Electronics. Mr. Griffin stated that there is steady growth across all industries in Yates County, and farm land selling at high rates.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer May, Executive Assistant