

Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board, Conference Room B
41 Lewis Street, Geneva, NY 14456
Thursday, May 9, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

ATTENDANCE: **Members:** B. Aronson, J. Davis, L. Freid, S. Griffin, A. McGraw, M. Manikowski, T. Sloan, J. Vrabel, J. Weaver
Staff: Karen Springmeier, Michael Woloson, Jennifer May

I. TalentBridge Network

A presentation was given to the committee by the President and owner of TalentBridge Network, Jeanie Fitzgerald. TalentBridge Network connects competent employees with businesses and enjoys many personal and business ties with the Finger Lakes area.

II. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the February 5, 2019 meeting were unanimously approved by the committee.

III. Action Item Follow Up

ACTION ITEM: Mr. Woloson to continue to follow up with Locate Finger Lakes regarding the asset mapping project.

IV. Economic Development Updates

Seneca County, Mr. Vrabel - Hillside is closing, with 47 employees being transferred within the organization, 28 resigning and 160 pending outcomes of employment

Ontario County, Ms. McGraw – Ms. McGraw spoke of Kathy Bailey will be attending the upcoming food industry summit, as well as the need for soft skills to be taught in schools.

Wayne County, Ms. Weaver – John Celso is currently in the schools, targeting students for training programs. The Summer TANF program is to begin soon.

Yates County, Mr. Davis – The two recent career fairs in Yates saw 20 business participants and 55 job seekers and more events are being planned for the end of the year, as well as career readiness fairs for high school students. Currently there are 950 registrants for the Skill Up program, including participants involved with probation and parole.

Seneca County, Mr. Aronson – Seneca County is working with the developer who bought the army depot and environmental studies are being reviewed. The developer should be a good employer, with 60 new hires in the first 5 years and 125 in the first 10 years projected.

Yates County, Mr. Griffin – A couple of businesses are in negotiation with Yates Economic Development. Also mentioned, 1,700 housing units are needed across all income levels in the area.

Ontario County, Mr. Manikowski – Gallo is buying Canandaigua Wine from Constellation Brands and hopefully Gallo continues the established local relationships with growers and the county. Constellation Brands is making a move from wine to cannabis, which would make a great impact on Ontario County.

V. Recent Announcements/Updates

Ms. Springmeier has purchased the licenses for the Skill Up Finger Lakes program, which will roll out in July. Mr. Woloson will also attend the food industry summit.

Next meeting: Friday, September 13, 2019

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer May, Executive Assistant