

Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board, Inc.
VETERANS OUTREACH MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 20, 2020

3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Geneva Career Center (New York State Department of Labor)
795 Canandaigua Rd., Geneva 14456

ATTENDANCE:

Members: Zachary Brooks, Chris Caughey, Keith Clough, Michelle Coomber, Karen Dean, Mary Gratton, Ed Hemminger, Jeremy Marshall, Phil Rouin

Staff: Jennifer May, Karen Springmeier, Michael Woloson

I. Introductions/Approval of the Minutes from November 7, 2019

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Mr. Caughey. All in favor, motion approved.

II. New Ideas for Servicing More Veterans

Mr. Woloson shared information with the committee about the new FLWIB program, "SkillUp Finger Lakes" which is available through June 2020. "SkillUp Finger Lakes" allows customers in the four county region to take online courses in IT, Healthcare, Advanced Manufacturing, Soft Skills and many other fields and earn "badges" that can lead to more career opportunities. Currently, four employers including G.W. Lisk, guarantee interviews to prospective employees who earn the Advanced Manufacturing badge. Mr. Woloson also handed out marketing material to members and said that he and staff are available to give program overviews to career center customers and businesses.

ACTION ITEM: Ms. Springmeier recommends that a question regarding the veteran status of customers be added to the "SkillUp Finger Lakes" registration.

Ms. Coomber and Mr. Marshall spoke of "Operation Recognition", a program that honors Veterans of World War II, Korea and Vietnam by granting them the high school diplomas that they were unable to earn due to their service.

ACTION ITEM: Ms. May to share more information about "Operation Recognition" via "Finger Lakes Features" on www.fingerlakesworks.com.

III. Fort Drum Outreach/Upcoming Job Fair

Mr. Marshall will be traveling to Fort Drum in April to participate in the fair and he invited those who are interested to join him. Mr. Brooks will also be attending on behalf of G.W. Lisk. Additionally, Mr. Marshall is planning to participate in a panel discussing veteran entrepreneurship at Fort Drum on April 2nd.

ACTION ITEM: Mr. Marshall to provide Ms. May with more information regarding the job fair and entrepreneurship panel; to be distributed to committee members.

ACTION ITEM: Mr. Brooks to give a committee update at the March 18th Board meeting; update to include information about Fort Drum.

IV. Other Business/Round Table

ACTION ITEM: Mr. Marshall to provide committee and WIB staff more information on "Shootout for Soldiers" and the possibility of a Finger Lakes Works table at the event.

Mr. Hemminger shared information about a Commander's Round Table, which meets monthly, and discusses veterans' affairs in the Farmington/Canandaigua/Victor area.

ACTION ITEM: Mr. Woloson to provide Mr. Hemminger with "SkillUp Finger Lakes" brochures.

Mr. Clough informed the committee of the Village of Waterloo's Purple Heart Recognition ceremony, which will recognize service members who have received a Purple Heart and take place on Memorial Day, 2020.

Mr. Brooks shared information about the Advanced Manufacturing Machinist training program offered in conjunction with G.W. Lisk and FLCC. Prospective trainees can contact their local career center to inquire about eligibility for WIOA training funds.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 14, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

This meeting was unanimously adjourned at 3:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer May
Executive Assistant