



**Board of Directors Meeting**  
March 31, 2021 at 8:00am  
Zoom Virtual Meeting Hartford CT

**Attendees:** Todd Andrews, Bettina Armour, Bill Bishop, Sheldon Bustow, Jon Colman, Paula Gilberto, Lindy Lee Gold, G. Duncan Harris, Mike Komaromi, Richard McGeary, Sandy Mello, Fiona Mohring, Susan Pierson, Jonathan Richmond, John Simoneau, Dan Tapper, Stephen Vaughan, and Lyle Wray

**Staff:** Alex Johnson, Kim Staley, Laura Hitt, Jim Boucher, Ben Hensley, and Liz Saunders

**Absent:** Jennifer DiBella, Renata Dixon, Thomas Mongellow, Phillip Montgomery, John Nimmons, Tracy Nixon-Moore and Lisa Sementelli

**Guest:** Marcy Reed

**Vice-Chairman Bettina Armour called the meeting to order at 8:06am**

Vice-Chair Armour confirmed that we have a quorum.

**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT – Alex Johnson**

Alex thanked Susan Pierson who is retiring from the State of CT department of education and has been a member of our Board of Directors and the One-Stop Services Committee for the past 14 years. Susan will be missed, and we wish Best Wishes on all her future endeavors. Welcome to Marcy Reed who will be taking Sue's place on the One-Stop Services committee and who will be her replacement on the Board as soon as we receive the approval.

**MISSION MOMENT – Future of Work Competition – Jim Boucher/Kimberly Staley**

- The primary project implementation team include **Jobs For the Future (JFF)**, a national workforce nonprofit, and **NewProfit**, a national venture philanthropy organization.
- The Future of Work Grand Challenge is a nationwide competition where CWP is **one of six Workforce Boards** selected to partner with 15 technology-based training solutions.
- Project sponsors include **Jobs For the Future (JFF)**, a national workforce nonprofit, and **NewProfit**, a national venture philanthropy organization.
- Competition parameters include training up to **350** individuals per training solution over a **90-day training period**, who will then be placed in employment over a **60-day placement period**.
- Training provided at **no cost** to CWP or participants.
- Target service population includes the un/underemployed with less than an associate degree and earning less than 2/3 the regional median wage
- Also discussed was the Solution Design and Impact for each of the Programs Pragma & MS Coding as well as CWP's commitments and timeline.
- A brief question and answer period followed. Kim stated we will be sending out the marketing information and a link to the portal to all Board members.

**Chairman's Report – Alex Johnson**

- **Legislative Update**
  - President Johnson reported that on the state level a significant workforce bill has been introduced by the Governor. We have been monitoring sources where we get funding and it appears that everything looks smooth going through the budget process. There are some seat changes on the federal level and considerable focus on the workforce development system nationally.

**Consent Agenda:**

- 1/27/21 Meeting Minutes
- Approve SYELP Providers



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- Approve Financials
- Approve RFQ Update

**Outcome:** Lindy Lee Gold made a motion to approve all the items under Consent. Jon Colman offered a second. All were all in favor; none opposed; the motion carried.

**Committee Updates**

**Finance & Audit – Laura Hitt**

- Laura outlined the revised PPP loan document for the Board to keep them all up to date on what has been discussed in committee. A copy of the document has been included in your meeting packet. Comments from the Board were to ensure that we have included all expenses that qualify and to ensure we maximize the opportunity. Laura stated that we do not qualify for round 2 of the PPP loan program.

**Governance Committee – Sheldon Bustow**

**Review Board leadership/Succession**

- Chairman Bustow announced that the Governance Committee has been busy meeting. In late April a draft copy of the proposed bylaws will be sent out to the Board. There are 3 areas with changes. A new DEI policy statement, term limits and a change in officer structure. Please review these bylaws prior to our next Board meeting in May and send in any questions or concerns. Also, we are looking for succession requests from our current Board members. We are always looking for individuals who are interested in our work and joining a committee or the Board. Please send any referrals to Sheldon and or President Johnson.

**Development Committee – President Johnson**

- President Johnson stated that we held our first Lunch & Learn on March 12, 2021. It was very well attended. State Rep. Toni E. Walker who is a strong supporter of Youth employment and Summer Youth Employment joined the Lunch & Learn as our guest speaker. We will be hosting these opportunities the second Friday of every month.
- Additionally, we are hoping to have a charity Golf tournament at Keeney Park on September 9, 2021.

**President/CEO Report – Alex Johnson**

**Governor's Workforce Development Bill**

- President Johnson stated that the Governor has put forth a Workforce Bill it is titled Senate Bill 881. The Governor's Workforce Board focuses on accessing high-quality jobs and meet the demands of the 21st century nature of work. Governor Lamont proposes an Office of Workforce Strategy to coordinate resources across the state, measures to increase post-secondary enrollment particularly for our most vulnerable students, and investments in a world-class workforce data system and in CareerConnect, a high-quality short-term training program.
- A copy of the bill is attached in your handout and this bill is progressing through the process.

**CARES ACT Round II Update**

- President Johnson mentioned that CARES ACT II is fast approaching. We are responding to the \$12 million application. **Project Parameters** \$12.5 million total pool of funding (CARES+ Education Relief), End Date December 31, 2021, Targeting Dislocated Workers and Opportunity Youth as priority populations.

**Other**

- President Johnson stated that we are in the process of implementing the H1B grant that we received on behalf of all the workforce boards in the state. Contracts have gone out.

**ADJOURN**

Vice-Chair Armour called for a motion to adjourn at 9:26am. Lindy Lee Gold made the motion which was seconded by Jon Colman. All were in favor; none opposed; the motion carried.