

Meeting of Montgomery County Workforce Development Board*
August 7, 2024
8:30 AM

*A full recording of this meeting can be accessed via [Zoom](#) with passcode: ^2kmd^YS
NOTE: Video time stamps are provided for each agenda item below.

Board Attendees: Kevin Armstrong, Jewru Bandeh, Dr. James Bridgers, Dr. Sonya Bruton, Todd Cohen, Stephanie Crane, Mark Drury, Barbara Ebel, Courtney Hall, Scott Goldberg, Steve Greenfield, Shant'a Johnson, Amelia Kalant, Mary Lang, Omar Lazo, Nagender Madavaram, Natalie Mitchell, Grant Shmelzer, Christa Tichy

1. **Call to Order** – Mr. Lazo called the meeting to order at 8:35 AM.
2. **June Meeting Minutes (00:29)** – approved without objection.
3. **Remarks from Councilmember Marilyn Balcombe (01:30)** – Mr. Lazo introduced Councilmember Balcombe to talk about her work on the Council thus far and her priorities, particularly the attainable housing policy that the Council will look at in the fall as well as the growth in infrastructure policy. These policies both directly relate to workforce development and the work the Board does. Councilmember Balcombe also addressed the upcoming budget and potential reduction concerns.
4. **Committee Updates**
 - a. **Health/Hospitality (24:20)** – Dr. Bruton explained that the Committee met on July 3, 2024. The group used a new meeting format to discuss the new business resource mapping project. It was determined that the project is a good idea but that conversations needed to continue with stakeholders. The main question that the group will continue to explore is who should be the “owner” of this project and how does the Board play a role?
 - b. **IT/Life Sciences (28:45)** – Mr. Cohen provided an update in Mr. Hernandez's absence. The group discussed the talent/supply demand gap particularly within the IT and Life Sciences industries. The Committee is revisiting the Charter and in the process of collecting data to better inform decision making moving forward.
 - c. **Construction/Transportation (36:28)** – Ms. Van De Weert provided a brief update since Mr. Drury was unable to Chair the July Committee meeting. The group has decided to change the meeting time to the third Wednesday of the odd months at 1:00 pm. During the meeting, Ms. Van De Weert updated the group on Blueprint/MoCo CAP progress.
 - d. **Youth/Young Adult (38:44)** – Mr. Featherstone provided an update since Mr. Madavaram was unable to Chair the meeting. Ms. Flaherty, LYFE (Launch Your Future Employment) program manager at WorkSource joined the Committee to provide an overview of the new youth initiative. MoCoCAP updates were also provided. The group determined that it would be best to have a youth perspective on either the Committee or the full Board. Mr. Armstrong reiterated that the Committee should invite a youth member to join. A brief discussion took place after the update on what other youth and young adult initiatives other members are working on.

5. **Re-entry Advisory Council Update (46:19)** – Mr. Lazo provided an update about the first meeting of the Re-entry Advisory Council. Mr. Featherstone explained that the new group is very diverse, and they will help inform decisions about what resources need to be in place for justice-impacted residents. The Council meets quarterly.
6. **ALICE Presentation from United Way of the National Capital Area (48:57)** – Mr. Featherstone introduced Stephanie Crane & Scott Mengebier from United Way NCA and explained the importance of understanding current ALICE data. Mr. Mengebier led the presentation on the updated ALICE data. For the slides used for the presentation contact [Sarah Van De Weert](#). Ms. Crane and Mr. Mengebier fielded a few questions after the presentation concluded.
7. Meeting adjourned by Mr. Lazo at 9:51.

Next Meeting: October 2, 2024 @ 8:30 AM via Zoom