

MINUTES OF THE ASHTABULA COUNTY BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: Friday, February 15, 2019

TIME: 12:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Ashtabula County Educational Service Center,
2630 West 13th Street, Ashtabula, Ohio 44004

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Patrick Arcaro, Executive Director, Ashtabula County Department of Job & Family Services
Dr. Jerome R. Brockway, Superintendent Ashtabula County Technical & Career Campus
Mr. Mike Candela, Superintendent, Pymatuning Valley Local Schools
Mr. Richard L. Jackson, Executive Vice President, Operations ASHTA Chemicals, Inc.,
Ms. Laura Jones, Executive Director, Leadership Ashtabula County
Mr. Greg Myers, Executive Director, Growth Partnership of Ashtabula County
Ms. Christina Ray, Human Resources Director, Ashtabula County ESC
Mr. John Ringer, President, Ringer Screen Print, Inc.
Mr. Craig Sernik, Executive Director Area 19 NOC COG
Dr. Sue Stocker, Dean and Chief Administrative Officer, Kent State University at Ashtabula
Ms. Wendy Zele, Manager, External Affairs, FirstEnergy Corp.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Dan Brubaker, Worthington Cylinders
Mr. John Rubesich, Superintendent Ashtabula County ESC
Mr. Mike Sass, Director of Human Resources, Community Care Ambulance
Mrs. Sharon Shoneman, ACESC Board Member
Mr. Leonard Stepp, Senior Vice President, Administration, APMC Healthcare System

GUESTS:

Panel discussion: Mr. Jeff Seth; Youth Opportunities, Mrs. Manda Jackson and Emily Dobran; ACCESS,
Ms. Patty Stone: Junior Achievement.
Media: Stefanie Wessell, Gazette Newspapers.

ITEMS DISCUSSED

1. Mr. Craig Sernik
 - Mr. Sernik opened the meeting
 - He conducted introductions of members
 - Mr. Sernik requested motion to approve the minutes. Dr. Brockway approved the minutes and Ms. Jones seconded. Minutes approved
 - Mr. Sernik introduced our panel indicating that the organizations speaking are currently providing business related, career related services to our school districts/students.

2. Mr. Jeff Seth, Youth Opportunities Program from A-Tech:

- Mr. Seth provided an overview and power point presentation of the Youth Opportunities Program
- youthOPPORTUNITIES is a program for young people aged 21 and under who could use a little help to achieve their goals. youthOPPORTUNITIES offers participants a wide variety of educational and work- oriented options to assist them in being successful in school and in life.
- youthOPPORTUNITIES is a community-based program in Ashtabula County that offers participants year-round access to a wide variety of services depending on their personal needs. Their focus is placed on youth who either need help to successfully continue in school and graduate or who need assistance completing their high-school equivalency (GED) while getting and keeping a job and becoming more self-sufficient.
- Youth Opportunities is currently serving about 550 county youth
- See the attached presentation

3. Ms. Manda Jackson and Ms. Emily Dobran: ACCESS:

- Provided a handout with regard to the program and conducted a presentation
- The handout indicates their Mission statement, services, program events.
- The mission of ACCESS: Ashtabula County Continued Education Support Services (ACCESS) is to present Ashtabula County Students with the information, strategies and resources that are essential for progression through an educational pathway that leads to a career.
- Three pathways: Enroll, Employ or Enlist
- Serviced 1700 students in the county
- There is a representative in each school district from ACCESS
- Have moved toward customizing their services concentrating on career exploration
- College Access facilitates Workforce Job and Career Fair in year 3 and this year will be held on Thursday May 2nd at Kent State Ashtabula. They coordinate with several community organizations to put this together.
- See the attached handout

4. Ms. Patty Stone, District Manager; Junior Achievement:

- Ms. Stone conducted a power point presentation
- Provided some handouts as well
- Mission is to Inspire and prepare young people to succeed in a global economy
- Visit every 7 & 8 grade students in our county
- Reach about 2500 students this year
- Have several activities and information about those activities are in the handouts
- See the attached handouts

5. Questions were directed to the panel with regard to their services

- How to link with the organizations
- How do they feel they can address the gap of an employable, available workforce. Each panel addressed this issue with what they feel their organization can do to help address this gap
- Question on Drug-Free America programs in schools. Currently a few of our schools have this program in place such as our career center, A-Tech and Ashtabula Area City Schools.
- Comments from our member, Mr. Craig Sernik indicating that Ashtabula County is so far ahead of other neighboring counties with regard to the services we receive from these three panelists and our other partner organizations. We really are a best practice and other counties visit or request information about our service programs, especially the youth opportunities program.

6. Reviewed items in the notebook provided to the members:

- Hard Copies of the members, plan, the bylaws, the agendas and minutes from the last meetings, the current activities

7. Reviewed current list of activities already being accomplished in the county that relate to our Business Advisory plan. Discussion that there are more items that need to be added as we learn of these activities.

- Discussed the OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal. Distributed a handout with an overview of the seal
- Question on Work-Keys

8. Reviewed the draft of the Ohio Revised Code required joint statement. The joint statement includes a progress report on the work the BAC has completed to date and a summary of the activities. Dr. Brockway made a motion to accept the joint statement as presented and Ms. Jones seconded. All in favor.

9. Discussion Next Steps:

- Gather more data and information regarding current activities, programs and events are already occurring. Members and guests in attendance will send some information to add to our summary
- For the next meeting, we would like to hear presentations from and invite the Ashtabula County Mentorship group to provide a summary of their activities. We would also like to invite the two Career Education Coordinators, Mrs. Denise Miller and Mrs. Staci Zappitelli

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Patrick Arcaro and seconded by Mr. Greg Myers. All in favor

ATTACHMENTS:

- *Minutes from November 30, 2018 Meeting
- *Presentation from Youth Opportunities
- *Presentation from Junior Achievement
- *Handout: College Access
- *Handout: The OhioMeans Jobs Readiness Seal
- *Adopted Joint Statement

Next Meeting:

The next Meeting will be held on May 17, 2019.