

**BUSINESS SOLUTIONS COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
May 2, 2013  
8:30 a.m.**

In attendance:

Dan Boas	Ed Green	Joan Divor
Kelly West	Darlene Scocca	Kristi Howell-Ikeda
Mary Meng	Michael Dugan	Michael Willmann
Frank Keith	Robert DeMarco	

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m.

The minutes of the May 2, 2013 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Mary Meng provided the committee with information on BCIT's Industry Councils, which meet two times a year. The committees cover a variety of industries, including welding, HVAC, Cosmetology, etc. The date for the spring meeting has not yet been scheduled, but Mary will keep us apprised. There are breakout committees that meet 3 times a year by sector and are more focused, as participants are employers in that particular field. Mary noted that the programs are successful to the point that employers often donate equipment and supplies for the programs.

Frank Keith provided an update on the recent BCC Business Group Form. Four key industries were the focus: Health, Finance, Transportation/Logistics and IT. Frank noted that BCC would be re-organizing to put in place a Manager of Corporate relations to meet with employers, gather information and develop programs. In late 2013 or early 2014, another forum may be held. Frank also noted that NFI currently needs 150 truck drivers and in addition to assigned deliveries, drivers can get their own accounts and move up. Bayada has a very viable career path for individuals within their healthcare structure.

Kelly West provided an update on the Internship/Apprentice program in partnership with BCC. The first program will focus on the insurance industry and includes the Philadelphia Insurance Society. An open house will be held on May 14 with the first class beginning on May 28 and running until June 14. Janisa Lovelace will be the single point of contact in the One-Stop. Other programs in the development stage include Real Estate, Engineering and other higher paid, high demand industries. The program will include a career ladder certification and a ribbon cutting will be held at the first class.

The committee discussed training recommendations and partnerships for long-term out of work individuals. This information will be brought to the Work First Committee Meeting by Kelly West.

The Fall Job Fair was discussed regarding date, location, member assistance to secure employers and other ideas to enhance the experience. It was noted that Moorestown Mayor Stacy Farias-Jordan spoke with Kelly West about holding the event at the Moorestown Mall. Mayor Jordan was to speak with Mall Officials about utilizing the space. To date, no information has been received. Kristi Howell-Ikeda discussed the Chamber's recent use of the Moorestown Mall. She noted that the County Chamber was required to purchase hundreds of dollars of mall gift certificates in lieu of a formal charge; and, once the event time had arrived, they were rushed to vacate the space. She also noted that the mall is a big hub for socialization and it was a distraction to participants as their friends were shopping or dining. Ed Green felt the Burlington Center was more open and provided a more comfortable environment. Nancy felt the Moorestown mall layout is a little confusing. Nancy also noted that immediately following Labor Day is like the Life of a New Year. Employers are looking to fill hundreds and hundreds of seasonal jobs and employees are eager to land a job.

Business Service Representatives provided information on the following:

1. Beneficial's seminar for the business community on May 21 at 8:00 a.m. The panel will consist of the WIB, Improvement Authority and BCC's Corporate College.
2. Open jobs orders for the past 60 days
3. Charts from the State Department of Labor regarding Characteristics of the unemployed in Burlington County vs. Southern NJ vs. the State of NJ.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.