

Jeffrey S. Swartz, Executive Director

Carl A. Donato Jr., Chair

ABILITIES COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 2023 (ZOOM)

ATTENDANCE

COMMITTEE INFORMATION AND ATTENDANCE		Trustee Member	16-Mar-23	13-Apr-23	11-May-23	13-Jul-23	10-Aug-23
Name	Organization						
Alloway, Veronica	American Water						X
Askie-Rosario, Andrea	CC Commission for the Blind				X	X	
Cirri, Frank	Camden County One-Stop	✓					X
Coleman, Ardella	Cooper University Healthcare		X		X		
Deitz, Jeffery	Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services	✓					
Donato, Carl, Chair	Wawa	✓	X	X	X	X	X
Forman, Lois	Jewish Family & Children's Service		X	X		X	X
Freire, Edison	JEVS Human Services		X	X		X	
Fugee, Antoinette	Cooper University Healthcare					X	
Galvin, Tim	Cooper University Healthcare						
Lucas, Angela	JEVS HireAbility						
Marks, Karen	Jewish Family & Children Service of Southern NJ						
McClintock, Monica	Rowan University		X	X	X	X	X
Metzger, Frances	Cooper University Healthcare		X				
Quinones, Cris	Wawa				X		
Scott, Jessica	The Arc of Camden County		X	X	X	X	
Spinelli, Allison	Gloucester County		X	X	X	X	
Storm, Jeanne	American Water						X
Weinberg, Oriel	Jewish Family & Children's Service		X			X	X
Henderson, Bridget	WDB Staff						
Levitt, Alex	WDB Staff		X	X	X	X	X
Swartz, Jeffrey S.	WDB Staff		X	X	X	X	
Vaughn, Debra	WDB Staff		X	X	X	X	X
Williams, Leslie	WDB Staff				X		

WELCOME

Carl Donato, Committee Chair, greeted the attendees and the meeting was called to order at 8:30 am.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Carl asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the July 13, 2023, meeting. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Lois Forman, seconded by Monica McClintock. The motion carried, with a majority vote to the affirmative and the minutes for July 13, 2023, were approved. Carl asked attendees to introduce themselves.

Discussion

Carl Donato, Committee Chair

- Carl commented that going forward the committee will widen its focus from veterans to also be inclusive of people with limited abilities and veterans.
- Alex shared the WDB staff scheduling list for upcoming community events. Committee members were invited to share event information for consideration to be added to the staffing schedule and to join WDB staff at events.
- Oriel shared that the Jewish Federation is hosting a Disability Inclusion Resource Fair on October 19th. He will share a flyer for Alex to distribute and post on WDB social media.

- Lois Forman inquired about the County Job Fair at the Cherry Hill Mall on September 15th and asked that she receive jpegs of flyers for upcoming events. Alex will forward the flyer to Lois for the JFCS job board. Frank commented that anyone interested in having a table should contact Frank Filipek Jr.'s office because it is a County-sponsored event, but there will be space on the One-Stop's tables to share information.
- Carl shared suggestions that were made for committee meetings going forth.
 - Working the meetings off of the schedule and taking a recess at the end of the fiscal year (July off).
 - Having an in-person meeting at the close of the fiscal year (June).
 - Carl inquired about written criteria for attendance at committee or board meetings. He asked if there is any rule for continued invitations to people who do not attend meetings, which Alex said he would look into. Upon review of the WDB Bylaws:

SECTION 5 - VACANCIES: A Trustee shall be deemed to have resigned and a vacancy shall be deemed to exist when the Trustee (a) no longer represents the constituency group from which originally selected, as determined by the Board, (b) submits written resignation to the Chair or (c) within any six (6) month period fails to attend half of the duly-called meetings of the Board and of each Committee of which the Trustee is a member. A Trustee also may be removed from the Board for good cause by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the full Board of Trustees after proper notice and opportunity to be heard.

- Lois suggested recognizing National Disability Employment Awareness Month in some manner, whether the committee held an event or not. Carl commented that the recognition for supported employment could be something as simple as sharing event photos on social media along with flyers for resources for people with limited abilities.
- Veronica Kinsella (Project Manager, American Water) asked for insight on hosting and suggestions for sources of funding to hold a job and resource fair for the disabled community. She stated that American Water had ample space but currently no budget to host an event. Carl outlined how the June 8th resource and hiring event for veterans was planned and funded through sponsorship. Various agencies and the DVR (NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation) were recommended for event resources and marketing.

JFCS

Oriel Weinberg, Director, Disability Services Department

- One of the facilities used by the Disability Services Department is undergoing renovations.
 - Virtua William G. Rohrer Fitness Center will be used for one program. A short-term commercial kitchen is needed for the Soups and Sweets Program for use 3 days a week from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. Oriel asked for suggestions for commercial kitchen resources.

Workforce Development Board

Jeffrey Swartz, Executive Director

A brief update was provided by Alex Levitt.

- The WDB continues to promote Atlantic City Electric's SPARK Internship Program, a paid internship for high school students. Two interns from Camden County participated in this summer's program. Leslie and Bridget are attending a "Thank You" event in Mays Landing today.
- The Quarterly Board Meeting will be held via Zoom on September 20, 2023 at 9:00 am. The agenda will include presentation of the Annual Report, a vote for approval of the annual budget and other business matters, so a quorum is required.

- The Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) has 48 interns assigned at 21 work-learn sites. The program will conclude on August 19th, with the exception of interns assigned work-learn site due to a scheduled closure at the start of the program.

ADJOURNMENT

Carl asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Lois Forman and seconded by Oriel Weinberg. The motion was carried with a majority vote to the affirmative and the meeting was adjourned at 9:28 am.

NEXT MEETING

The next Abilities Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 14, 2023 at 8:30 am. The meeting will be conducted via Zoom.

Submitted by,
Debra Vaughn
Administrative Assistant to the Executive Director