

**CONNECTICUT STATE APPRENTICESHIP COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
September 19, 2013
at the
Connecticut Department of Labor
200 Folly Brook Boulevard
Wethersfield, Connecticut
Conference Rooms A & B
at 1:30 p.m.**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Larry Vallieres at 1:30 p.m.

Members In Attendance

Chair, Sharon M. Palmer, Larry Vallieres, Mel Olsson, Dr. Nivea Torres, Frank DaCato, Martin Alvarenga, Robert Berkmoes.

Members Not In Attendance

Robert Corrado, Jeffrey Merrow, Fitz Walker Jr., Gregory Raucchi.

Others Present

Vinnie Valente, Ken Duff, Keri Lamontagne, Carl DiFazio, Mark Mastropasqua, Jon Waleski, Edward Dombroski, John Able, Judy Resnick, Gary Masvaro, Patricia Downs, Tracy Ariel, Heidi Balch, Thomas Sportini.

Recorder

Jeanie Simoneau

I. Minutes of Previous Meeting

A motion to accept the minutes from the February meeting was made, seconded and carried.

II. Correspondence

None.

III. Apprenticeship Update – Vinnie Valente

- Apprenticeship reports were distributed to Council members.

- Program Manager's report was distributed to Council members, giving details on apprenticeship initiatives for the future on manufacturing and duties performed over the summer.

IV. Apprenticeship Related Instruction - Jon Waleski

- Jon reported on the feedback he received on the increase of tuition costs for apprentices.

V. Old Business

Apprenticeship unit continues to send letters to legislators upon the completion of an apprenticeship program by an apprentice.

VI. New Business – Frank DaCato

- The 69th ESAC Conference was held at Foxwoods Casino from June 3rd to June 6th, with approximately 200 people in attendance. Breakout sessions included subjects on ERISA, submarine design, Women in the Trades, Working with VoTech High Schools, Veteran's issues among others.
- A special thanks was given to Commissioner Palmer for being the keynote speaker.
- A special thanks was given to Heidi Balch and the Kaynor Tech High School Skills USA students for their help with the conference.
- The next standing committee meeting will be held on Friday, October 3, 2013 in Burlington, Vermont to discuss the 2014 conference.

VII. Public Comments

- Mark Mastropasqua commented on his skepticism regarding the pre-apprentice program. Others commented on the advantages and safeguards implemented for the program.

VIII Good and Welfare

- Vinnie Valente thanked all in the apprenticeship community for their continued support in the program.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.