

**CONNECTICUT STATE APPRENTICESHIP COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
September 17, 2015
at the
Connecticut Department of Labor
200 Folly Brook Boulevard
Wethersfield, Connecticut
Conference Rooms A & B at 1:30 p.m.**

Call to Order

A quorum not being present the meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM as an informational meeting. Commissioner Palmer made welcoming remarks.

The meeting was officially called to order at 1:55 p.m. when the sixth member arrived to form a quorum.

Members In Attendance

Chair, Sharon M. Palmer, Frank DaCato, Melvin Olsson, Laurence Vallieres, Christopher Brown & Richard DuPont

Members Not In Attendance

Dr. Nivea L. Torres, Jeffrey Merrow, Robert Berkmoes, Gregory Raucci & Martin Alvarenga

Others Present

Kenneth Duff, Jon Waleski, Paul Costello, John Yusza, Jr., John Stonkoski, John DeRosa, Ngan Nguyen, Don Keener, Bob Kolb, Lynn Raicik, Velma Willis, Catherine Zinsser, Ken Rowland, Michael Komaromi, Joseph McGloin, Cynthia Cook, Janita Hamel, Heidi Griffen, Larry Satchell, Joe Reilly, Melissa Sheffy, Jennifer Phillips, and Jessica Skuby

Recorder

Kenneth Duff (on behalf of Elena Barkasy, who was unable to attend)

Informational Meeting Notes:

Grants: Ken Duff announced and reviewed the recently awarded Manufacturing Innovation Fund (MIF) Grant of \$7.8M and the American Apprenticeship Initiative (AAI) Grant of \$5M. The MIF has already added 46 new apprentices and eight new sponsors in the Manufacturing sector since July. This grant provides up to \$13,500.00 per apprentice in wage subsidies over two years, pays for related classroom instruction and four interim credentials per apprentice over the same period of time. This grant applies to apprentices registered after July 1, 2015, and has a goal of 500 new apprentices added in the Manufacturing trades.

The recently awarded AAI grant will pay related instruction costs for 1,000 new apprentices over five years. The grant also has a goal of training 500 pre-apprentices and will assist in the purchase of tools and equipment needed for training. The three sectors targeted are Manufacturing, Health Care and Business Services/IT. The grant also seeks to target underserved groups such as women, veterans and minorities. Both grants together will enable the CT Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship Training to add six new staff members to help in the development and implementation of the resulting new programs and added apprentices.

Related Instruction Evaluations: In the absence of Pat Ciarleglio, Jon Waleski reported on the on-going effort to evaluate and re-assess all apprenticeship related instruction providers. To date all the CT Technical High Schools, JATC's and Advanced Manufacturing Centers have been approved along with Manchester Community College, Middlesex Community College, MASC, ToolingU and Penn Foster for various trades. Four proprietary schools have been approved leaving several still engaged in the process. Melissa Sheffy and Jennifer Phillips from Construction Education Center (CEC) made a statement appealing for a different standard of approval than the model currently being used. They asked that a measure of the validity of their program should be the success of the apprentices who use it. Commissioner Palmer stated that the standards were the same for all and that the needs of the apprentices were paramount.

The SAC meeting was officially called to order at 1:55 p.m. when the sixth member arrived to form a quorum.

- I. Minutes of Previous Meeting**
 - There was a motion to accept the minutes from last meeting. Seconded and approved.
- II. Apprenticeship Update – Kenneth Duff**
 - General discussion of both the American Apprenticeship Initiative (AAI) and Manufacturing Innovation Fund (MIF) grants recently awarded
 - Related instruction reviews
 - Also, discussed were both Pratt & Whitney's and Electric Boat's plans to reconstitute apprenticeship programs
- III. Correspondence**
 - None
- IV. Apprenticeship Related Instruction & CTHSS (none)**
- V. Old Business**
 - No old business was brought before the Council

VI. New Business

- None

VII. Public Comments

- None

VIII. Good and Welfare

- None

Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m. Motion passed.

**Minutes respectfully transcribed and submitted by: Elena Barkasy,
Apprenticeship Secretary (SAC meeting notes were taken by Kenneth Duff,
Apprenticeship Coordinator in Elena's absence)**