



## Meeting Minutes

April 17, 2019 – First Citizens National Bank

Members in attendance:

Bonnie Shaw - First Citizens National Bank

Frank Gibson – Facilitator/Tri-Rivers

Laurie Vent - Upper Sandusky Schools

Scott Moore – Open Door Resource Center

Brian Kimmel - Kimmel Corporation

Laura Gier – Wyandot County Job and Family Services

Lu Cooke – Office of the Lt. Governor

Angie Morelock – Vanguard Sentinel Career Technical Centers

Sara Graham – Kasai North America

Greg Moon – Wyandot Economic Development / Wyandot Chamber of Commerce

Jason Eibling – Mid-American Therapy / Wyandot Chamber of Commerce

### Call to Order:

Jason Eibling called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

### Introductions and Progress Sharing:

Introductions were given. Jason asked for progress that had been made since the February meeting:

- Jason: Announced that Kathy Grasz had resigned as director of the Wyandot Chamber and as such would no longer serve on the WETF. The Chamber board is currently seeking qualified candidates for a replacement, and Jason asked that the WETF members contact him with any suggestions as they will selectively contact potential candidates for the hiring process.
- Frank: Announced that he is working with Hardin County to develop In-Demand Jobs Week activities, and they are continuing to use the WETF as a model to build a similar group in Hardin County. Also shared the efforts of Marion County stakeholders to organize 'Manufacturing Month' that will be highlighted by a manufacturing expo at the coliseum.
- Lu: The Lt. Governor has been appointed director of the state's workforce efforts. Lu has been traveling Northwest Ohio to generate In-Demand Jobs Week events throughout the region, and NW Ohio now has events across the map. Announced the Lt. Gov. would be attending one event in NW Ohio for Lakeside Marine in Tiffin to kick off its new apprenticeship program.
- Angie: Added that Vanguard Sentinel CTC is the education partner for the new marine technician apprenticeship program, which Lakeside Marine is implementing. Announced that this week is the Skills USA event, and 198 students from the Vanguard Sentinel district were invited to compete. Skills USA is the 'top-of-the-top' students in career-technical fields, and many businesses attend the event to potentially recruit the young talent competing.
- Brian: Kimmel Corp. was recently approached to host 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classes, and is contemplating what would be involved. Although it will not happen this year, the company is open to finding ways to get the youth into its facility. Also announced one of its employees was currently attending Upper Sandusky Middle School's "Reality Store" today.
- Laurie: Reality Store is an event that brings local business and community representatives into the middle school to help run a real-world scenario for students. Students are randomly given a

life/family/career scenario, where they are tasked with figuring out how to budget monthly expenses and needs. Each middle school class goes through this 1 hour long program.

- Also noted the Wyandot Community Foundation had contacted her regarding a new program they are considering that may be a scholarship for local students specifically entering a career-technical field, or to an employer hosting an apprenticeship program in a career-technical field. Angie mentioned that Terra State had done something similar that was funded by area industry. She will share that information with Laurie, and Laurie will communicate further with representatives of the Community Foundation as this effort would fall under the Education theme workgroup.
- Laura: Recently met with a local manufacturer to explore offering its On-the-Job-Training Program and other forms of applicable assistance. Received a call and met with Diamond Plastics out of Dunkirk who is in need of welders.
  - On Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup> JFS is holding a countywide career expo at the fairgrounds from 11:00 – 3:00. There are about 45 employers and schools registered to attend, and additional resources such as resume writing assistance and mock interviews will be available. MTC is also bringing its mobile lab.
  - Each day during In-Demand Jobs week, JFS will host a local company and help promote its available jobs.
- Scott: The next Getting Ahead class will start on May 6<sup>th</sup>. For this 12<sup>th</sup> class, he would like to bring in a few local employers near the end of the offering to discuss their employment opportunities with class participants. This may help connect participants with jobs, and to help educate the community on what is available.
- Greg: Discussed and handed out the results of 3 recent survey efforts. His office had helped to distribute an Occupational Demand survey on behalf of the Ohio Manufacturers Association that looked at current and future needs for specific industry occupations as well as average wage ranges. There were 6 Wyandot County manufacturers who participated, and that information for Wyandot was aggregated by Greg. The 6 responses were also sent on to the OMA who will aggregate the data on the state level.
  - A student perception survey was created based on a Kenton survey, and shared with Upper Sandusky, Carey, and Mohawk High Schools. Greg shared the current results from USHS. These surveys will be left open a while longer and aggregated data will be reported.
  - A child care survey was also distributed community-wide over the past week to collect valuable information that a potential daycare provider would be looking for. The current results of this data was also shared.
  - Greg also shared an update on his discussions with the City of Upper Sandusky and Village of Carey on the potential of implementing a student loan assistance grant program.

### **In Demand Jobs Week:**

Wyandot County currently has 4 events listed on the state map, and Laura Gier will submit their additional event happening that week.

### **Themes - Action Teams Breakout:**

Members broke into their respective theme teams to update their action items and tasks for each of the 4 primary theme areas.

After roughly 15 minutes, the teams quickly shared their updates and ongoing tasks with the larger group:

**Communication:** *(Team leads: Leanna Barnes & Deana Piekos)*

- New attendee Sara Graham (Kasai) joined the Communication team as discussion surrounded the new HR Network.
- Creating an HR Network – An email was sent out to the other team members, and a meeting was scheduled next week to move along the creation of the HR Network. The team will be asking for HR/employer network to commit to a format for ongoing discussions (i.e. Facebook, LinkedIn, a list serve, etc.).

**Education:** *(Team lead: Laurie Vent)*

- Continuing to connect individual HR leaders with students that have an interest in a related career field. USHS currently has 4 students placed at Wyandot Memorial Hospital to introduce them to different professions in the industry. Laurie would like to expand this type of educational programming with other employers.

**Attraction:** *(Team lead: Kyle McColly)*

- Tuition Assistance Grant Program – The team will follow up with and continue to support the City of Upper Sandusky and Village of Carey as they explore the potential of developing their own programs.
- Community Marketing Video – The team will work to create a 20-30 second video marketing Wyandot County to potential residents/workers that would be distributed online. They will contact a local individual capable of shooting and editing video. Scott Moore will help to develop the script, and the team will work to figure out exactly what about the Wyandot community will be highlighted.

**Retention:** *(Team lead: Bonnie Shaw)*

- Licensed daycare in Wyandot County – Laura Gier has tried to contact the Apostolic Gospel Church on their upcoming licensed daycare facility in Upper Sandusky. She will continue to try and make contact. She also plans to identify some more child care facility operators in our area to gauge their level of interest in expansion into Wyandot County, and to better understand what type of information would be most helpful to them.
- Community Center/YMCA – Responses to the student perception surveys often noted the lack of community amenities for youth to utilize and keep them busy. The idea of a community center or YMCA-similar facility was considered. The team plans to reach out to nearby facility operators to generate ideas and possible solutions. The need for an aquatic facility by both USHS and Wyandot Memorial Hospital was also mentioned.

**Next Meeting:**

Jason then reminded the group that the next meeting would occur at the same time and location on May 15<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month).

**Meeting Adjourned**