



Supporting the Development and Retention of a World Class Workforce

Jeffrey S. Swartz, Executive Director

Robert Weil, Chair

LITERACY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2019

ATTENDANCE – LITERACY COMMITTEE

MEMBERS		3-Apr-18	1-May-18	5-Jun-18	17-Jul-18	7-Aug-18	4-Sep-18	8-Nov-18	4-Dec-18	8-Jan-19	5-Feb-19	5-Mar-19
Brahl, Ken CHAIR	Ravitz Family Shoprites	X		X	X		X	X	X		X	X
Burnell, Mariya	TD Bank					X						
Cirri, Frank	Local Area Operations Director, Camden County							X		X		X
Dann, Carol	Hopeworks Camden							X	X	X	X	
Daunoras, Heidi	Pine Hill School District							X	X			
De, Shyamoli	Camden County Library									X		
Doblick, Duke	Literacy Access Fund				X							
Druce, Jennifer	Camden County Library South County Branch			X	X	X		X				
Hill, Lauren Dr.	Camden County Youth One Stop							X	X	X	X	X
Kalitan, Marlyn Vice Chair	Kalitan Consulting	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Kinzy, Joanne	CCC							X	X			
Knopf, Dick	Marketing Professional Services		X	X	X	X					X	
Levandowski, Andrea	NJ State Library										X	
Lisa, David	Camden County Library System	X	X		X	X			X		X	
Lynch, Dawn	NJLWD					X						
Mintz, Jackie	CCC	X										
Mitchell, Danielle	RobinsNest Inc	X	X	X	X						X	
Page-Soncrant, Jeanne	Business Service Rep, LWD											
Rimby, Donna	Clementon Memorial Library											
Strobl, Holly	Council Women, Clementon Borough		X		X	X		X				
Young, Jennifer	Verizon	X				X		X	X			
Swartz, Jeffrey S.	WDB, Executive Director					X		X	X	X	X	X
Varallo, Kathleen	WDB, Admin Assistant	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Williams, Leslie J	WDB, Comptroller											

WELCOME

Ken Brahl, Literacy Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:35am, welcomed attendees and asked for round table introductions. Ken welcomed Jack Horchar, Life Organization. Kathleen Varallo, Administrative Assistant WDB, invited Jack as a result of meeting him at a Catholic Networking event. Jack said he teaches financial literacy and life skills for different youth groups. His background is in construction so he puts an emphasis on leadership and entrepreneurial development when he speaks to young individuals.

LEARNING LINK PILOT PROGRAM

Frank Cirri, Local Area Operations Director, reported on the satellite Learning Link program at the South County Branch, Winslow Township. He said this online pilot program is an attempt to extend skills training into other parts of the County. One-Stop Counselors are available to meet with customers on Wednesdays by appointment to help them assess any deficiency in literacy or math skills that keep them from obtaining a GED, or further training. Customers are given a plan and guidance along the way. Frank said there have been no calls for the program yet. The One-Stop has been including information in its outreach activities. He said that Lauren Hill, Learning Link Manager, told him that she spoke with David Lisa, Associate Director Camden County Library System that information about the program would be published in the Spring County Library

Newsletter. Jeffrey Swartz, Executive Director, WDB, further explained that this satellite program allows participants to register with the One-Stop Career Center upon meeting with a Counselor by appointment at the Winslow Township Library. They may be in need of brushing up on math and reading skills. The individual is tested with the Test of Adult Basic Skills (TABE) to establish their reading and math grade level. Once levels are established, the Counselor works with each individual to create a plan that can be implemented using the computers at the library. The Counselor can monitor the progress of the individual online and plan in-person check points along the way. This service is especially good for an individual preparing to qualify for a training program or GED High Set test.

STATE LIBRARY VISIT

Kathleen reported that she forwarded contact information for Andrea Simzak Levandowski, Library Consultant for Small Business Development & Technology, New Jersey State Library to Holly Stobl, Councilwomen, Clementon Borough. As a result of Andrea's visit to the last committee meeting, she felt that the State Library could help the Clementon Memorial Library expand their online services. Kathleen also said that she emailed the following links and presentations that Andrea presented to the Committee. The Camden County Library system offers many of the online offerings that the State Library provides.

Information about the statewide databases, including ReferenceUSA, Rosetta Stone, and Job & Career Accelerator, Andrea mentioned during her presentation can be found by following this link;

https://www.njstatelib.org/services_for_libraries/statewide_services/jerseyclicks/

Local links to the Camden County Library System can be found at the Camden County Library, 203 Laurel Road, Voorhees 08043, Phone: (856) 772-1636, website:

www.camdencountylibrary.org

LITERACY COMMITTEE 2019 GOALS-Updates

Jeff reported that letter invites have been sent to the Mayors of Clementon, Pine Hill and Lindenwold. The letter invited them to participate in a discussion about how the Workforce Development Board has been working to promote literacy services in their local area. He said that all three Mayors, Thomas Weaver, Clementon, Richard Roach, Lindenwold and Christopher Green, Pine Hill, have accepted the invitations. The Literacy Committee will host a spaghetti dinner at the fire hall behind the Library in Clementon Borough on Tuesday, March 12, 2019, 6:30pm. All committee members were also invited to attend this meeting.

Ken further explained that the Clementon Memorial Library is a small under used library that is only open part time in that local area of the County. The Committee has hosted two events there which have helped to increase some activity in their lower level community room. It was discovered in preparing the Literacy Needs Assessment there are concerns about the need for literacy services in that area. Jeff said that one of the roles of the Workforce Development Board is to be a convener of partners or organizations around more ideas about serving the community with more opportunities for career paths and job skills development. One of the goals of the meeting will be to introduce them to the current work of the WDB and the Literacy Committee, and also to offer awareness that the LNA identified a common concern with a percentage of the population, in three these local areas, that are in need of literacy services. The other goal of the meeting is to review the committee's

successes at the Clementon Memorial Library and discuss ways the three local areas can work on some coordinated efforts with the help of the committee to expand current outreach.

Literacy Needs Assessment – Ken said that the mayors will receive a copy of the LNA and Marlyn Kalitan, Vice Chair, Literacy, can give a brief description of its finding specific to the local areas of Clementon, Pine Hill and Lindenwold. He said that services of the One-Stop Services for Jobseekers will also be described. Kathleen said that she will prepare a hand out about State Library Services. She said she will draft the agenda and send it around to the Committee before the dinner.

The Committee discussed a tentative agenda as follows;

- Introductions of committee members, the WDB, mayors and associates.
- State Library Service that can be connected to smaller local libraries
 - Language Learning
 - Business to Business
 - Resume and Skills Development
- Connecting and Expanding Literacy and Workforce Services
- One-Stop and Complimentary Literacy Services for Jobseekers
- Atlantic City Electric Training Initiative
- Open Discussion

Kathleen reminded the committee they have been invited to meet at Hopeworks on Tuesday, April 2, 2019. Visit <https://hopeworks.org/> for more information about Hopeworks.

Ken thanked Jack Horchar for attending the meeting and providing the Committee with information about his work in the region.

NEXT MEETING: The Literacy Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 2, 2019 at 8:30am at HopeWorks Camden, 808 Market Street-- 3rd Floor.

Submitted by

Kathleen Varallo,

Administrative Assistant