

Minutes



**Career Pathways Council
Meeting
February 14, 2023
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

Attendees: Maria Mead, Regina Browning, Tom Saxton, Joey Walter, Angela Sapp, Kim Kelling, Kevin Vaughn, Chelsea Williams, John Hershey, and Tiffany Vause

Staff: Jim McShane, Tandria Edwards, Trish Yahn, Reenee Williams, Dolores King, Patricia McCray, and Heather O'Connor

Recording:

I. Welcome & Call to Order

Chair Mead called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the quarterly Pathways Council meeting.

II. Meeting Minutes Approval

November 8th, 2022

Chair Mead stated that she hoped everyone could review the meeting minutes for November 8th, 2022, before attending the meeting.

Motion: Chair Mead entertained a motion to approve November 8th, 2022, minutes.

Kevin Vaughn approved, and Kim Kelling seconded—all in favor.

III. Florida Ready to Work – Soft Skills Certification Overview

Chair Mead turned this discussion over to Tiffany Vause from Florida Ready to Work to discuss the Soft Skills Certification.

Tiffany Vause introduced herself to the group and gave an overview of the new Florida Soft Skills certification. The new Soft Skills is an interactive digital training focused on in-demand employability skills including conveying professionalism, communicating effectively, teamwork and collaboration, and thinking critically and solving problems.

Each module includes a pre-test, career contextualized direct instruction, and a post-test to measure learning gains. The online training is self-paced and accessible from any digital device anywhere anytime. Courseware is available for those who do not pass the exam.

A one-hour, online proctored assessment validates mastery of skills. Those who pass the assessment earn the Florida Soft Skills Credential which is issued by the State of Florida and signed by the Governor.

IV. Career Pathways Website Discussion

Chair Mead started a discussion on the Career Pathways website mentioned that updates are needed and there is not much grabbing the attention of those who visit the site.

A handout was included in the agenda packet that reviewed the Career Pathways website (<http://www.mycareerpathways.org>) traffic over the last 16-month period. The data showed that there were just over 18,000 new users during that period, of which 13,458 were generated from Google searches.

Chair Mead as all members to review the Career Pathways website after the meeting and send via email any recommendations for updates to Chair Mead and Heather, before the next meeting in May 2023.

V. Top Occupations

Heather reviewed a document included in the agenda packet, which included the Top 15 advertised occupations in our region and the last month through last year. The top occupations on the list include Registered Nurses, Software Developers, and several customer service/retail positions. Also included are Administrative Assistants and Managers.

VI. Partner Updates

Chair Mead told committee members that it has been easier to hire people lately, particularly with nursing faculty.

Angela Sapp greeted everyone and stated that they had just hired an Adult Education instructor.

Tom Saxton stated that they are slowly expanding program offerings.

Jim mentioned that the new Master Credential List is finally out, however the list is extensive. He also mentioned that we will need to align with the new website.

John Hershey stated that positions have been filled in the Career Centers and they have been busy training staff. They have also been marketing the new Ready to Work Soft Skills Certification. The career centers have been keeping busy.

Kim Kelling mentioned a new grant, the American Graduate Grant – upper high school level students). She mentioned created a youth council.

Regina Browning stated that they are putting GED students on Florida Ready to Work and are going to add staff as well. They are currently offering morning, afternoon, evening, and online classes.

Maria stated the next meeting would be a hybrid meeting with the BPAC members on May 17th, 11:30am to 1pm, at the Leon Career Center.

Trish stated it would be a hybrid meeting on May 17th. If you are unwilling or unable to attend in person, you can join us on Zoom. Lunch will be served at the meeting.

Chair Mead thanked everyone for attending the meeting today. And reminded everyone about the May 17th meeting. Meeting adjourned.