

## **BUSINESS SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**April 12, 2022**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

STAFF: Pham, Thoo, Tran

GUEST: Greg Harris, Business Services Manager, San Jose Career Center

NOTE: All votes were by roll call unless otherwise indicated.

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**

Chair George Chao called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm.

##### **Roll Call**

**Present:** Chao, Smith (3:30 p.m.), Takahashi, Taunk, Koepp-Baker, McGrath

#### **II. OPEN FORUM**

None

#### **III. BUSINESS**

##### **A. Minutes Approval**

Ms. Koepp-Baker moved to approve minutes of the February 8, 2022, Business Services Committee meeting. Mr. Takahashi seconded. The committee approved unanimously.

##### **B. Employer Engagement**

- 1. Facebook and Resilience Corps** - Analyst Nguyen Pham reported on the success of the Facebook Connections digital marketing internships project, shared success stories, and said that staff have scheduled a second round of the project in July 2022. He reported that the Resilience Corps digital marketing project has 40 participants with an 89% retention rate, and the cohort is scheduled to end in December 2022. The Facebook cohort has an 87% retention rate, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase is scheduled to start in July 2022.
- 2. Healthcare Providers: HCA Regional Medical Center, Good Samaritan Hospital, Santa Clara County Health Services** -Strategic Engagement Manager Lawrence Thoo reported that senior staff are continuing work to increase engagement with the health care sector. work2future is supporting recruiting efforts at HCA Regional Medical Center, Good Samaritan, and Santa Clara Health Services.
- 3. Skillful Talent Workshops** - Lead Business Services Analyst Huong Tran reported on the Bay Peninsula regional Skillful Talent Workshops that are offered free to employers 2 times per month, to train businesses to improve the effectiveness of their recruiting efforts by focusing on the skills they need for various positions, instead of relying on academic degrees or other academic credentials as a primary screening filter. Ms. Huong shared a flyer with committee members so they could promote this training opportunity inside and outside of their respective organizations.

##### **C. Services**

1. **Career Fairs** - Ms. Tran reported on the planning for the April 20<sup>th</sup> Manufacturing Career Fair; 16 employers, 6 resource providers, and 140 registrants are expected. A joint job fair with San Jose City College is planned for May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 30 employers are expected to participate. Staff are also working on a job fair for Bloom Energy and will be assisting at a Caltrans hiring event.
2. **WAF 9.0 Career Accelerator Update** – Mr. Thoo reported that recruiting outreach for the WAF 9.0 Career Accelerator Pilot with Flex Interconnect Technologies (FIT) has begun. FIT’s goal is to select five trainees in time to begin class and hands-on training on May 31, the day after the Memorial Day holiday.
3. **Incumbent Worker Training** – Mr. Thoo gave an overview of Incumbent Worker Training (IWT). He explained that this is available for employees that have been with an employer at least 6 months and can be used to either promote employees or retain an employee that otherwise would be in danger of being laid off. He informed the committee that work2future plans to offer up to \$10K per employee and hopes to begin the program by the end of this fiscal year.

#### **D. Business Intelligence**

*Staff reports and discussion, including without limitation*

1. **Rapid Response Updates** - Ms. Tran reported receiving WARN notices from SunPower (for 89 individuals) and ARM Inc. (for 80 individuals).
2. **February 2022 Labor Market Summary** - Mr. Thoo presented a summary of the labor market for February 2022, noting that the unemployment rate continues to fall, recovering to about rates immediately before the pandemic measures took effect. The county’s labor force also continued to recover with an unemployment rate of 2.9%, and the number of people looking for work is at its lowest point since the pandemic began. He reported on the state of work2future’s priority sectors and on the 53 in-demand quality occupations with an average wage of \$64.00.
3. **Committee Observations on Local Labor Market** - Ms. Taunk offered that her organization is now hiring more direct, not “temp to perm” as was common in the past. Ms. Smith stated that Kaiser was being more flexible in its education and experience requirements due to their nearly 20% vacancy rate. Mr. Takahashi offered similar remarks regarding recruiting challenges and the very competitive labor market.
4. **Bay Peninsula RPU Apprenticeship Grant Information** – Mr. Thoo informed the committee that San Francisco, NOVA, and work2future, the Bay Peninsula Regional Planning Unit (RPU), will be submitting a DOL grant application to help employers develop apprenticeships in non-traditional sectors such as IT and healthcare.

#### **IV. OTHER**

Mr. Thoo announced that the next Business Services Committee meeting would be held on June 14, 2022.

#### **V. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Chao adjourned the meeting at 4:23 pm.