

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2017

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Brice Lake.

Attending: Jamie Morrow, Rebekah Wright, Becky Lehman, Dustin Lehman, Luke Campbell.

Guests: Lynn Wehmeier, Central Mo. Workforce Coordinator of Dept. of Economic Development, Jacquie Brewer, and Mignon Dureka.

Lynn Wehmeier spoke about Work Ready Community. Handouts supplied & attached:

1. Morgan Count Goals & Actual Status; 3 categories: Emerging, transitioning & current individuals.
2. Mo. National Career Readiness Certificate Employer Partnership Letter; Morgan County has 2, needs 26.
3. Power Point presentation materials.

Additional copies of the Certificate Employer Partnership Letter distributed.

EDC to invite businesses by personal visits to employer to provide workforce development, bring businesses into partnership. Brice & Luke visits on Thursday. Jamie to visit businesses and Assisted Living Facility in Stover & Community Point Bank. Dustin to visit contacts he has.

Brice work with Mitch Shields of Lake Regional for Urgent Care or it's equivalent in Versailles. Our Aging population moving to smaller homes, smaller yards. Discussed housing issues. Linda Conner of COLG as Grant Writer, LORCC, or any Mo. Extension Office. Need banker & land developer in same room, exchanging thoughts. We are growing local talent & need to keep them here.

Brice talked with Cory Ten Belsel regarding MDCDC. Funds set to transfer to EDC. Concerning issue: entire hanger at the airport is on property in discussion: 2.88 acres. Made by easement in 2003, per Mayor Silvey. Property is now 27.43 acres. Suggested Hubbard Kavanaugh review easement and recorded deed. No utilities at location, a lift station would be a ½ million dollars; could be factory or residential. Once property is transferred, will look into treatment facility. Contact Andrew Hardwick, Attorney.

Short Term Goals are 1-2 years:

- Make Versailles a Certified Work Ready Community
- Revitalize downtown, create housing
- Way finding signs around Versailles
- Learn how to market ourselves, locations updated
- Submit grant applications
- Work as a community, with residents, school, city
- Eggs & Issues Breakfast or Business Expo
- Welcome to Versailles for businesses and residents

Long Term Goals are 5+ years:

- Work Ready Community Certification
- Katy Trail
- Establish Location One
- Area Annexation – towards Hwy 5
- Independent Living Center Community
- Manufacturing of some sort
- 4 Lane hwy from Sedalia to California on Hwy 50

Dustin discussed marketing demographics. New construction projection shows 6 houses per year in Versailles, 8 in Eldon, 10 in LO, 20 in Osage Beach, and 30 in Camdenton. Quality of housing, price range, renovations, no spec homes-not enough return on investments. SPI Contractor in Eldon has 10-12 employees who work full time.

Chamber to reinstate a newsletter. Will take over the EDC for Versailles.

Next meeting is Tuesday, December 12, 2017 6pm at the Chamber office.

Attachments.

Ready. Set. Grow – Missouri National Career Readiness Certificate & Certified Work Ready Communities.

August 29, 2017 – Morgan, Miller & Camden Counties in Mo. were State approved.

Work Keys Test takes 3 hours, must be 18 years old to take test. Issued by ACT, is portable, evidence-based credential that certifies essential skills needed for workplace success.

Work Ready Communities – a national effort, led by ACT. Voluntary initiative led locally by key community leaders, local elected officials, economic development, business leaders, chambers, educators, and workforce development.

Goal is for the community to work together to strengthen it's workforce by aligning workforce with education and economic development.

How does a county achieve Certified Work Ready Community status? Counties achieve goals (based on common criteria) or individuals in the workforce & students earning a National Career Readiness Certificate...and by businesses supporting the County's initiative by recognizing or recommending NCRC.

(Goals set by ACT based on Census data).

Community Benefits of being ACT WORK READY COMMUNITIES **CERTIFIED**:

1. Economic growth and prosperity
2. Support for existing businesses
3. Community collaboration
4. Recognition for local achievements
5. Platform for regional cooperation
6. Attracting new businesses by proving you have a skilled workforce (#1 reason site selectors indicate as being critical to attracting new business).

Communities leverage the National Career Readiness Certificate to achieve certification: The NCRC, issued by ACT is a portable, evidence-based credential that measures essential workplace skills and is a reliable predictor of workplace success.

Tests – **NCRC** measures the following skills:

1. Reading and using written, work-related text – applying information from workplace documents to solve problems.
2. Applying mathematical reasoning to work-related problems.
3. Locating and applying information that is presented graphically.

4 levels of Certification possible: Platinum 6 & above; Gold 5 & above; Silver 4 & above; Bronze 3 & above. On all 3 sections of the testing. Testing is even done in prisons.

Evidence-Based Hiring Process: “**The National Career Readiness Certificate** will make the hiring process smoother and more efficient. It will provide effective measure of the applicant's fundamental skills, and give the employer an assessment for potential success. Today's economy demands a tool which ensures job seekers have the right stuff to succeed.” Daniel P. Mehan, President/CEO, Mo. State Chamber of Commerce.

Benefits to Employers: Takes the guesswork out of hiring for the employer
Reduces time and hiring costs
Reduces turnover cost
Reduces training time and costs
Increases productivity
Onsite applicant screening

Benefits to Job Seeker: Portable credentials crosses state lines and industry sectors
Proven skills in Math, Reading, Location information
Facilitates job placement, retention and advancement
Gives confidence your skills meet employer needs
Shows initiative, motivation.
(take the test through the Mo. Job Center, its free)

What does it mean for an Employer to support?

A business can choose to recognize, prefer, or recommend the NCRC in support of their county becoming a certified work ready community, and prefer candidates for their job openings have this with a resume.

A business can indicate its support by signing up on the CWRC website:
<http://www.workreadycommunities.org> or give them the attached handout.

Employer Testimonials: <https://vimeo.com/187805989>;
<https://ded.mo.gov/getcertified>;
<https://ded...mo.gov/getcertified/about>;
<http://www.fourstateshomepage.com/new/certified:work-ready-program-success>