

**PHOENIX BUSINESS AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
BUSINESS AND WORKFORCE ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes**

**January 19, 2023
9:00 a.m.**

Members Present:

Karen Carter

Jeff Clark

Kaaren-Lyn Graves

Fred Lockhart

Jesus Love

Sam Wolo

Public Attendees:

James Montoya

Jovanna Parkhouse

Genie Usher

Stacey VanEmst

Action items taken are noted in **bold** print.

1. Call to Order / Roll Call:

The Business and Workforce Engagement Committee (BWEC) Chair, Jesus Love, called the January 19, 2023 meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Roll call was completed and a quorum of five members were present.

2. Approval of November 17, 2022 Business and Workforce Engagement Committee Meeting Minutes:

BWEC Member Karen Carter motioned for approval of the November 17, 2022 Business and Workforce Engagement Committee (BWEC) minutes, BWEC Ad-Hoc Member Fred Lockhart seconded.

Jeff Clark, Kaaren-Lyn Graves, Jesus Love, and Sam Wolo voted to approve. No members were opposed.

Sam Wolo joined the meeting at 9:05 a.m.

3. Bagels and Business Event Planning:

BWEC Chair Jesus Love shared that he met with the Maricopa Community Colleges regarding the upcoming Bagels and Business Event to be hosted at Paradise Valley Community College (PVCC), focused on Advanced Business Services at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, February 22. PVCC has a new business initiative and proposed collaborating with the Phoenix Business and Workforce

Development (PBWD) Board to reach a larger audience. Jesus shared the agenda of the meeting, including introductory remarks by City of Phoenix (COP) Community and Economic Development Department (CEDD) Director Chris Mackay.

The plan is to host a Bagels and Business event at a different community college that is a part of the Phoenix Work4orce Alliance each successive quarter for the year. BWEC Vice-Chair Kaaren-Lyn Graves asked about anticipated attendance and Jesus shared that invitations would be sent to approximately 500 people, but he anticipated around 50 attendees.

Jesus shared that since the Bagels and Business events are going to be hosted at community colleges, they are asking business panelists to set up tables to informally introduce themselves to students at the events at future events.

4. Employer Success Stories:

BWEC Chair Jesus Love shared that the employer success stories is a roundtable discussion to develop strategies to gather and curate success stories and how to share those stories with businesses. He shared that the success stories can be from any organization in the ARIZONA@WORK City of Phoenix story.

Jesus shared that he went to a manufacturing open house in the West Valley to share information about what the Literacy Volunteers of Maricopa County do. He shared that about fifteen percent of the people at the company were refugees newly arrived in the country. At the event, he met a banker at US Bank who got her high school diploma through the Literacy Volunteers of Maricopa County six years earlier.

ARIZONA@WORK City of Phoenix Acting Business Services Supervisor James Montoya shared that the success stories can be shared with other businesses and on the website and through social media channels that are available. ARIZONA@WORK City of Phoenix One-Stop Operator Stacey VanEmst shared that the success stories can be shared on the televisions at the One-Stops to encourage the jobseekers going in seeking services. Jesus asked if system partners could get assistance from COP to get success stories filmed to share with the system. Stacey shared that there are technology funds that are available to leverage for promoting the success stories for community partners leveraging the new referral portal.

5. Business Engagement Updates:

ARIZONA@WORK City of Phoenix Acting Business Services Supervisor James Montoya shared the Numbers@Work document which covers business services activities through the first two quarters of PY 2022-23.

Numbers@Work includes Phoenix MSA labor market information (LMI), business services recruiting efforts, visits with businesses, and work-based learning programs. The Business Services team has had 47 hiring events and 106 visits with businesses. They currently have 14 active work-based learning contracts and 261 participants currently enrolled in work-based learning.

- 6. Business and Workforce Engagement Committee Strategic Plan Review:**
BWEC Member Karen Carter shared that she and BWEC Sam Wolo met with staff and decided which metrics they wanted and how they wanted them presented. They will have those metrics available to present to the BWEC. BWEC Chair Jesus Love shared that he wants to discuss how to reengage on their strategies between committee meetings.

- 7. Committee Update Report:**
BWEC Chair Jesus Love shared he share information about the Bagels and Business event and the potential series going forward.

- 8. Matters for Future Discussion:**
Reminder that BWEC meetings have an in-person option

- 9. Call to the Public/Open Discussion:**
BWEC Vice-Chair Kaaren-Lyn Graves shared that the undersecretary of the Department of Commerce is visiting Phoenix Better Business Bureau and Kaaren-Lyn Graves asked PBWD Board members to attend the meeting. PBWD Board Liaison Genie Usher will send information to committee members.

- 10. Adjournment:**
BWEC Member Karen Carter motioned to adjourn the meeting, BWEC Vice-Chair Kaaren-Lyn Graves seconded.

Jeff Clark, Fred Lockhart, Jesus Love, and Sam Wolo approved the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:44 a.m.