



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

**VIRTUAL MEETING
April 21, 2022
9:15 a.m.**

Members Present:

Karen Carter
Nick DePorter
Kaaren-Lyn Graves

Fred Lockhart
Jesus Love
Brendan Mahoney

Public Attendees:

Mary Alejandro
Christina Edwards
Sylvia Hokey
LaSetta Hogans

Hayden Maynard
James Montoya
Demitria Robles
Sam Wolo

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

1. Call to Order / Roll Call:

The Business and Workforce Engagement Committee (BWEC) Vice-Chair, Kaaren-Lyn Graves, called the April 21, 2022 meeting to order at 9:16 a.m. Roll call was completed and a quorum of eight members were present.

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

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

Nick DePorter, Kaaren-Lyn Graves, Jesus Love, and Brendan Mahoney, voted to approve. No members were opposed.

3. Bagels and Business Event Wrap-Up:

BWEC Chair Jesus Love shared that the March 16, 2022 Bagels and Business Event focused on the changing economic landscape had good attendance and the majority of the attendees were board members or partners. He suggested

that BWEC members commit to ensuring they bring 2-3 business contacts to the next Bagels & Business Event. BWEC Vice-Chair Kaaren-Lyn Graves said that people have webinar fatigue and the committee should consider hosting a hybrid in-person/virtual event. Jesus offered to host the next Bagels & Business event at the Literacy Volunteers of Maricopa Sunnyslope location. Staff shared that the next steps will be to identify a date for the next event, a topic, and identifying committee to coordinate the event. ARIZONA@WORK City of Phoenix Business Services Project Manager James Montoya suggested focusing on the new normal and returning to work. BWEC Member Karen Carter suggested a roundtable discussion about new recruiting techniques people are employing because of COVID-19 limitations.

BWEC Chair Jesus Love suggested including ARIZONA@WORK system partners in the invitations because they are all involved in economic development. BWEC Vice-Chair Kaaren-Lyn Graves asked if there is a process in place for reserving space at his location and he shared he will reserve the space on behalf of the committee.

BWEC Chair Jesus Love motioned to approve scheduling the next Bagels & Business meeting for August 24, 2022 with a roundtable discussion about new recruiting techniques and returning to the workplace, BWEC Ad-hoc Member Fred Lockart seconded.

Karen Carter, Nick DePorter, Kaaren-Lyn Graves, and Brendan Mahoney, voted to approve. No members were opposed.

4. Business Engagement Updates:

ARIZONA@WORK City of Phoenix (COP) Interim Business Engagement Supervisor James Montoya shared information about business services including visits, hiring events, and work-based learning contracts. The Business Engagement team conducted 40 visits in March, have hosted 58 hiring events for the fiscal year, and have 25 work-based learning contracts currently in process.

5. Phoenix Business and Workforce Development Committee Updates:

BWEC Vice-Chair Kaaren-Lyn Graves asked for committee updates. ARIZONA@WORK COP Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL) Coordinator Sylvia Hokey shared that the Performance Excellence Committee (PEC) has lifted the training limits caps to \$10,000 for COP targeted industries and \$7,000 for non-targeted industries.

6. Business and Workforce Engagement Committee Strategic Plan Review: Strategy 4: BWEC Chair Jesus Love shared that their goal group has met and

shared that Bagels & Business program is a part of their strategy. The group will have updated actions and timelines for the next meeting.

Strategy 5: BWEC Member Karen Carter shared that she had no updates

Strategy 6: BWEC Vice-Chair Kaaren-Lyn Graves shared that they have no updates for this meeting, but they are trying to look at their strategy from a policy standpoint.

7. Committee Update Report:

BWEC Vice-Chair Kaaren-Lyn Graves will share information about the next Bagels & Business Event.

8. Matters for Future Discussion:

Committee and Board Engagement

Re-engaging with Phoenix Businesses to share resources

9. Call to the Public/Open Discussion:

BWEC Chair shared that Sam Wolo is in the process of joining the committee. He shared that PBWD Board member Steve Cramer asked if he could share information about the National Association of Customer Service Management on April 28, 2022. BWEC Vice-Chair shared that NABEDC is partnering with the Arizona Diamondbacks to host events on May 14 and 15.

10. Adjournment:

BWEC Ad-Hoc Member Fred Lockhart motioned to adjourn the meeting, BWEC Member Brendan Mahoney seconded.

Karen Carter, Nick DePorter, Kaaren-Lyn Graves, and Jesus Love approved the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.