

Workforce Development Board of Northwest Georgia
Services to Individuals with Disabilities
Committee Meeting
Thursday, December 8, 2016 at 10:30am
Vocational Rehabilitation- Rome, Georgia

Minutes

Disabilities Committee Members Present:

Shelia Callaway
Melissa Freeman
Lorraine Green
Rita Lawler
Kim Linek
Shelia Parker
Paul Ray
Maia Santamaria

Disabilities Committee Members Absent:

Kathy Joule*

Guests and Staff Present:

Kathy Baker
Karla Conetta
Susan Gentry
Phyllis Walker

*resigned

Mr. Paul Ray welcomed those present and called the meeting to order. He asked those present to introduce themselves. It was determined that a quorum was available. Mr. Ray asked for a motion to approve the minutes from November 7, 2016. Kim Linek made the motion to accept. Rita Lawler seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Paul Ray asked the committee members if they would like to add a committee member since Ms. Kathy Joule had resigned and he asked committee members for nominations to fill the vacancy. After some discussion the committee members decided to nominate and add Mr. Jonathan Cook. Mr. Paul Ray was going to check with Mr. Cook to see if he was interested in filling the vacancy.

Mr. Paul Ray informed the committee that their primary goal was to focus on Employment and Training for Individuals with disabilities. The first area the committee would focus on was who needed training.

Committee members discussed the issue and decided to tentatively schedule a Resource Fair in March or April for Training providers of services and people needing services. Also, the committee members wanted to schedule a cross training with multiagency staff, but decided they should start with a cross training session for committee members only and then expand it to multiagency staff. The committee members will have a cross training session on Thursday January 26, 2016 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm prior to cross training of any agency staff. The cross training will include a referral process. All committee members are to prepare a list of services that his or her agency provides and a list of people that need the cross training.

Next Mr. Paul Ray stated that at this time he felt that the committee should focus on staff training and focus on marketing at a later date. Committee members agreed.

Ms. Phyllis Walker informed the committee that the Disabilities Resource Manual/Directory was still being updated. Phyllis asked the committee if they were interested in updating the manual/directory once a year and making the manual/directory's primary focus on Employment and Training Services. Committee members suggested refining the directory. After some discussions the committee decided to table the refining of the manual/Directory until after the Committee Members received the cross training on January 26, 2016. The committee felt that they would have a better understanding of the agencies and service providers after the training that would allow them to make better decisions regarding changes to the Disabilities Resource Manual/Directory.

Meeting was adjourned.