

FOOTHILL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD (FWDB) MEETING

MINUTES OF JUNE 26, 2024 FWDB FULL BOARD MEETING

INTRODUCTION AND ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Selinske welcomed everyone and Raymond Delgado conducted the roll call. A quorum was established at 9:11 a.m.

PRESENT – FOOTHILL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Tom Selinske, Vice Chair, Selinske and Associates Consulting

Laurie Wheeler, South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce

Tashera Taylor, Executive Director, Foothill Unity

Salvatrice Cummo, Executive Director – Economic & Workforce Dev., Pasadena City College-9:33 a.m.

K-Rahn Vallatine, CEO, Inner Sun Consulting

Keshia Darden, Owner, Simply Divine-

Soyinka Allen, Program Director, Hospital Association of Southern California

Noel (Tony) De Trinidad, Business Representative, Painters & Allied Trades DC 36-9:20 a.m.

Hector Delgado, Vice President, Teamsters Local 986-9:15 a.m.

Adiana Rios (in place Alexis Carter) Employment Program Manager II, Los Angeles/Coastal, EDD-Workforce Services

Diana Ling (in place of Denise McKnight), District Administrator, California Department of Rehabilitation

ABSENT – FOOTHILL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Dan J. Lien, Chair, DJL Professional Services

Shomari Davis, Business Representative, IBEW Local 11

Rachelle Arizmendi, Government Industry Advisor, Avenu Insight & Analytics

Gene Hurd, President, UAW Local 509

Flint Fertig, Director of Adult Education, Monrovia Unified School District

Elia Evans, Fiscal Operations Specialist

STAFF PRESENT

Sarah Mendoza and Raymond Delgado

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the February 14, 2024, FWDB meeting were approved.

Motion: Tashera Taylor Seconded: K-Rahn Vallatine

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – 7 (Aye – Rios, Ling, Vallatine, Wheeler, Allen, Taylor, Selinske) Nays – 0

FWDB'S VICE CHAIR REPORT

Chair Vice Chair Selinske updated everyone on the Executive Committee's progress regarding strategic planning for the four-year plan to be submitted to the state.

Vice Chair Selinske then asked staff member Sarah Mendoza to provide any program updates.

Sarah Mendoza elaborated on the current grants, explaining that, at the request of LA County, the Youth Contract will be renegotiated. She also noted that the center has experienced an increase in traffic flow.

VII. A. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF FWDB MEMBERSHIP RENOMINATIONS TO FILL FWDB POSITIONS EXPIRING AUGUST 31, 2024

Laurie Wheeler introduced the item and explained that the terms of some board members are expiring. She noted that everyone whose term is expiring has requested renomination. Laurie Wheeler then asked if anyone had questions about the item.

Vice Chair Selinske read out the names of the members requesting renomination:

Business Category:

- Keshia Darden, Owner, Simply Divine
- Daniel J. Lien, Principal, DJL Professional Services
- Tom Selinske, Owner, Selinske and Associates Consulting
- Laurie Wheeler, President/CEO, South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce

Labor Category:

- Shomari Davis, Business Representative, IBEW Local 11

Economic and Community Development Category:

- Tashera Taylor, Executive Director, Foothill Unity Center, Inc.

Laurie Wheeler added that the terms for these positions have been shortened to two years.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF FWDB MEMBERSHIP RENOMINATIONS TO FILL FWDB POSITIONS EXPIRING AUGUST 31, 2024

Motion: Hector Delgado Seconded: Noel (Tony) De Trinidad

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – 10 (Aye – Rios, Ling, Vallatine, Wheeler, Allen, Taylor, Selinske, Darden, De Trinidad, Delgado) Nays – 0

VII. B. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF FWDB OFFICERS FOR PROGRAM YEAR 2024 – 2025 (ACTION ITEMS)

Tashera Taylor introduced the item and explained that there had been discussions at an Executive Committee meeting about rotating the Chair and Vice Chair positions. She mentioned that through these discussions, the committee believed Tom Selinske and Laurie Wheeler would be excellent candidates for the Chair and Vice Chair positions, respectively. Tashera Taylor also explained that the current Chair, Dan J. Lien, wishes to step down.

Vice Chair Selinske noted that one of the reasons Dan J. Lien is requesting to step down is due to his availability. He also mentioned that Dan J. Lien believes the Chair position should be rotated every few years.

Vice Chair Selinske asked the Foothill Workforce Development Board members if they wished to nominate anyone else for the Chair position.

Tony De Trinidad supported the recommendation to appoint Tom Selinske as Chair of the Foothill Workforce Development Board, and Hector Delgado seconded the motion.

No one objected or made any other nominations.

NOMINATE TOM SELINSKE TO SERVE AS CHAIR TO THE Foothill Workforce Development Board FOR THE 2024-2025 PROGRAM YEAR

Motion: Noel (Tony) De Trinidad Seconded: Hector Delgado

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – 10 (Aye – Rios, Ling, Vallatine, Wheeler, Allen, Taylor, Selinske, Darden, De Trinidad, Delgado) Nays – 0

Vice Chair Selinske introduced Laurie Wheeler as the recommended nominee as the Vice Chair and asked the other Foothill Workforce Development Board Members if they would like nominate anyone else or themselves.

Keshia Darden made a motion to approve the recommendation and Tashera Taylor seconded. No other board members objected or nominated anyone else.

NOMINATE LAURIE WHEELER TO SERVE AS VICE CHAIR TO THE Foothill Workforce Development Board FOR THE 2024-2025 PROGRAM YEAR

Motion: Keshia Darden Seconded: Tashera Taylor

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – 10 (Aye – Rios, Ling, Vallatine, Wheeler, Allen, Taylor, Selinske, Darden, De Trinidad, Delgado) Nays – 0

VII. C. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF A RECOMMENDATION TO MODIFY THE FWDB BY-LAWS TO CONSOLIDATE AND REDUCE THE NUMBER OF FWDB STANDING COMMITTEES AND TO ADD TWO AT LARGE MEMBERS TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (DISCUSSION)

Vice Chair Selinske introduced the item and explained that adding two at-large members to the Executive Committee would ensure diverse voices are represented, especially if there is a decision to consolidate the committees. Vice Chair Selinske elaborated that since COVID, committee meetings have been limited.

Currently, there are five committees:

- Executive Committee
- Business Services Committee
- Youth Committee
- America’s Job Center of California (AJCC) and Disability Committee
- Planning Committee

Vice Chair Selinske explained that the proposal is to consolidate these into three committees:

- Executive Committee
- Business Services Committee
- Youth Committee

Vice Chair Selinske mentioned that if special projects or other topics arise in the future, Ad Hoc Committees can be formed.

Vice Chair Selinske added that he hopes the committees will meet to reassess their focuses and create a work plan for the next year or two.

K-Rahn Vallatine asked if descriptions of the current committees are available. Vice Chair Selinske referred to the by-laws, which provide detailed descriptions of each committee.

Vice Chair Selinske then asked the board members if they had any questions or input on the proposal.

Keshia Darden expressed interest in serving as the Youth Committee Chair.

Vice Chair Selinske elaborated that once the members interested in serving on the committees are identified, a mission statement, structure, and work plan can be created to help things move forward.

Diana Ling asked how many times a year the committees would meet. Vice Chair Selinske responded that since the committees have been inactive, there is no clear answer. He shared his idea that committees should meet when there is a specific purpose or action required.

RECOMMENDATION TO MODIFY THE FWDB BY-LAWS TO CONSOLIDATE AND REDUCE THE NUMBER OF FWDB STANDING COMMITTEES AND TO ADD TWO AT-LARGE MEMBERS TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Motion: Hector Delgado Seconded: Laurie Wheeler

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – 11 (Aye – Rios, Ling, Vallatine, Wheeler, Allen, Taylor, Selinske, Darden, De Trinidad, Delgado, Cummo) Nays – 0

X. ROUNDTABLE

Vice Chair Selinske announced his intention to structure future agendas to prioritize hearing board members' efforts in their current fields at the beginning of the meetings. He added that the next meeting would be in September, where they will discuss some strategic initiatives.

Vice Chair Selinske shared an experience with a contractor concerned about youth involvement in the building trades field. He asked board members if they had any information about difficulties in retaining people in this field.

Tony De Trinidad responded by asking what the board is doing to obtain funds from the recently passed infrastructure package by Biden. He mentioned an apprenticeship program that collaborates with the Flintridge Center in Pasadena but noted the need for more avenues to attract participants. Despite participating in many career fairs, they only get a small number of interested individuals. Tony De Trinidad added that many youth are more focused on social media or pursuing careers as doctors or lawyers, perceiving the building trades as a lesser option, even though many who complete the program earn six figures.

Salvatrice Cummo commented that while this type of funding goes through workforce channels, they often rely on institutions like Pasadena Community College. She mentioned that Pasadena Community College recently obtained a \$3.5 million grant through the California Apprenticeship Initiative and is in various development phases. The biggest challenge is securing partnerships for placements. She expressed interest in working with the Board, Hector Delgado, and Tony De Trinidad.

Hector Delgado shared that the Teamsters have a Truck Driving School, but they struggle with retention despite a 90% graduation rate. Many new hires leave within a few days due to various issues like disliking the job, schedule, or management.

K-Rahn Vallatine mentioned that he has developed a course focusing on these issues, particularly mindset. He noted that the current workforce is different from previous generations, who were more concerned with hours, pay, and job stability. Today's workers might leave a well-paying job with benefits if they don't like the environment.

Vice Chair Selinske appreciated the discussion, noting that these topics could be addressed in committees such as the Youth Committee. He added that mindset training could benefit many individuals entering the trades.

Keshia Darden highlighted the issue of finding funding for youth under 18 and requested the board to seek funding for 15 to 18-year-olds.

Salvatrice Cummo suggested dual enrollment for these youths to cover some of the paid training and recommended working directly with high school districts to understand how they use their Strong Workforce Funding.

Vice Chair Selinske mentioned that he had pushed for dual enrollment when he was on the Pasadena Unified Board about eight years ago, and it is now gaining traction, with enrollment doubling each year. He believes there is no cap on dual enrollment.

Vice Chair Selinske encouraged board members to collaborate and assist each other. He asked if there was funding available for marketing and community outreach on some discussed topics. Staff member Sarah Mendoza said she would need to provide information on that later.

Soyinka Allen mentioned her work with 170 hospitals and expressed interest in participating in youth-related discussions and the Youth Committee, as well as working with the board on the WIOA program.

Salvatrice Cummo suggested including strategic focuses in every agenda. Vice Chair Selinske agreed, adding that the intent is to restructure the agenda and provide detailed progress reports at each meeting.

Vice Chair Selinske thanked everyone for attending, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:26 a.m.