MEETING MINUTES
BUSINESS & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, September 19, 2017
CALLED BY: Brian Andersen and Brian Dozer
LOCATION: Greater Irvine Chamber of Commerce
36 Executive Park, Ste. 100
Irvine, CA 92614

I. OPENING
• Meeting called to Order at 4:04 p.m., by Co-chair, Brian Andersen.

II. INTRODUCTIONS
Chairs welcome everyone to the meeting, and John Kurth reads the Mission Statement. Each attendee is acknowledged and introduced.

III. KNOWLEDGE MULTIPLIER
• Topic of Discussion – “Future of Work”
The article was reviewed by Co-Chair Brian Dozer, who pointed out that although automation in the workplace is increasing, there are certain types of jobs that will need a human hand to properly be utilized. Job types and the likelihood of them being opted out to complete automation were detailed within the article. Discussion was then opened to the audience. Comments were made from both the business perspective and the educational viewpoint.
1. Job seekers should rely on several values and talents instead of concentrating on one set of skills.
2. Potential employees should persist in continual learning to keep abreast of new trends and skill sets.
3. There is a need to maintain a changing mindset in order to encompass growth potential.
4. How adaptive is current curriculum to assist students in exploring new employment avenues?
   Lauren Brooks commented that teachers are offering different spaces where students can learn differently.
   Dr. Glenn Roquemore spoke about the Guided Pathways Project and how community colleges can be redefined. The community college cycle should be 2 years, it is now averaging 5 years with instructors having control over curriculum with “boutique classes.” He explained that the state also has a program, “California Guided Pathways,” which is a different program from the one being offered through the community colleges.
5. The need to adjust curriculums across the nation to one standard so that students transferring units from Community Colleges to 4-year facilities do not risk losing units due to differences in coursework taught,
6. the ability of Community Colleges to offer additional resources instead of complete classes, providing those with basic course knowledge the opportunity to enhance their existing skill set without having to go back through the coursework again.
   Brandman University is currently offering self-competency courses online allowing students to work at their own pace to complete coursework.
   Dr. Greiner reported that students are asking for the freedom to do classwork in different ways as opposed to the current procedures. This includes group work, team work, and other modes that will help them better integrate into the ever-changing work place. IVC also offers an Entrepreneur Certification Program.
Co-Chair Brian Andersen raised the question: What programs need to be developed to help displaced workers train for new jobs in the face of increasing automation? Dr. Roquemore responded that there has to be a comfortable partnership between business partners and education institutes to gather enough participants to make a program run.

Bill Kerwin responded that we need to offer additional resources instead of complete classes, and that IVC is working with companies to determine what is relevant to their situation and offering training to those workers who need it. Also, businesses need to see the educational side as a resource for what is needed tomorrow instead of just addressing today’s problems.

Jessica Yip offered that this is exactly the business that Vital Link is in, that the workforce needs to be updated constantly to understand the skill sets that are needed right now, as well as the trends in industries annually.

Co-Chair Brian Andersen asks the group if this is something that we should address now or follow and address it as we move forward? Bill Kerwin responded that the Chamber should engage each business and get the word out about our efforts to work with them.

Co-Chair Brian Andersen assigns the group a task for next month’s meeting: Be prepared to discuss how/what impact the B&WD Committee can have in this area and ideas on a core mission for a possible Task Force.

IV. TASK FORCE REPORTS

- Emergency Business Recovery & Preparedness Program – Bill Cunningham provided an update. October 19th has been scheduled for a public-private sector Summit, “Eagle or Ostrich?” The focus will be on identifying the best practices for businesses and what resources are already available. Three panels will present from the public sector (Police/Fire) viewpoint, the public utility viewpoint and the private sector security viewpoint, with Q&A opportunities. Chip Monaco will moderate the program. This breakfast event opens at 8:00 a.m. and ends at 11:45 a.m.

- Business Outreach – Update provided by Brian Montes. The broad-spectrum Life Sciences sector is our industry target for the October 25th Business Outreach Rally. New benefits have been added for the participants, including chance drawings for
  - 2 tickets to a future Networker’s Luncheon;
  - 2 tickets to the Business Outlook Breakfast in January, 2018;
  - 2 tickets to the World Trade Week Breakfast & Forum in May, 2018; and,
Registration is open, recruiting has begun and we have 14 registrations as of today. All Chamber members are welcome.

- Career Edge – Dr. Cathleen Greiner provided an update. The October 7th session: Mastering Communication for the 21st Century Workplace, will take place at the Chamber, 8 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Registration stands at 11. Our instructor for this session is Dr. Roopa Mathur, Chair and Professor, School of Business Sciences at IVC. We confirmed the instructors for each of the sessions and have now scaled the program up to include all Orange County college and University campuses.
• **Career Readiness – Ethics Forum** – Pepper Russell provided an update. This Task Force will be meeting during the first week in October to review progress to date and welcome new member Rob Vicario, replacing Spencer Schwerdtfeger from Woodbridge.

• **Career Readiness – Financial Forum** – Brian Dozer provided an update. The next session will take place in October, Peter has not yet secured a date for the event. An email will be sent for volunteer facilitators once the date and location are in place.

• **Career Readiness – Job Discovery & Internships** – Jessica Yip provided an update. A series of dates have been chosen for the Job Discovery Day event – Feb. 27, Feb 28 or March 1, and the final date will be chosen depending on which companies respond. Committee members are asked to canvas their business contacts to recruit companies to host small groups of students in their facilities. Also looking for sponsors for the event: catering, funding, and facilitators. Companies already contacted include EON Reality and Boeing.

• **Start-Up Eco-System** – Brian Montes provided updates. Research continues on the current status of our local start up eco system. The next Task Force meeting will be September 26, 1:00 p.m. at the Chamber.

V. **CHAIRS’ COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION**
Co-Chair Brian Andersen reported on the RFP from Amazon, looking for a home for their second Headquarters. The Chamber has set up a response button on the Economic Development website to record reaction and support from our Chamber members. These support letters will be forwarded to the City of Irvine as we work together with the Irvine Company to bring Amazon to our city. The RFP due date is mid-October so there is limited time in which to respond. [http://www.irvinechambereconomicdevelopment.com](http://www.irvinechambereconomicdevelopment.com)

VI. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

VII. **ADJOURNMENT**
The meeting was adjourned at 5:08 p.m., by Co-Chair Brian Andersen.

Minutes recorded by Pepper Russell.

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**Next Meeting:**
**October 17, 2017**
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

**Greater Irvine Chamber of Commerce**
36 Executive Park, Ste. 100  Irvine, CA 92614