



APRIL 16, 2009 MEETING SUMMARY

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. EDT. Andra Cornelius welcomed all and reviewed the agenda.

Green Jobs for Florida - Andra provided information on an upcoming workshop sponsored by WFI's Sustainability/Infrastructure Committee, chaired by Lila Jaber. The workshop will focus on better defining Green Jobs in Florida. The workshop will be held Friday, May 8th at the Doubletree Hotel in Tallahassee. Representatives from industry, unions and others will discuss how they define green jobs in the absence of any national definition. The agenda will include presentations from Rebecca Rust - AWI, Jeremy Susac - Executive Director of the Florida Energy Office, Commissioner J. B. Clark – Florida Energy Commission (and FEWC member), an executive from Florida Power & Light, Al Stimac – Florida Manufacturer's Association and National Association of Manufacturers Board member, and a representative from the Senate Utilities Committee. There will be an opportunity for public comment. Once the agenda is finalized, it will be distributed to FEWC members. Andra commented that the U.S. House of Representatives, Education and Labor Committee recently conducted a similar workshop on green jobs and their role in the economic recovery. Testimony from the meeting is available on line.

FEWC DOL Grant Application Update – Jennifer Grove had previously briefed members on what we might anticipate from USDOL's \$500 million discretionary grant funding which will be directed at green jobs. Discussions have been held with Florida's Department of Education regarding ways to better connect and thus strengthen a Florida application submission to USDOL. Dr. Kim McDougal, DOE, pledged support for working together on this important opportunity. The grant guidelines should be out in a month and will be based on Green Jobs Act of 2007.

Summer Youth Energy Opportunities – Jennifer Grove crafted a document of what might be natural collaborations between regional workforce boards and Florida utility companies using stimulus funding targeted to summer youth activities. Members have received a copy of the document, as well as regional workforce boards who have posted it on their blogs. Kathleen Woodring will make a presentation on FEWC and industry partnerships, specifically her region's plans for summer youth opportunities, at a USDOL regional meeting next week.

Carol Higley reported JEA is working with their regional workforce board on summer youth opportunities and potential partnerships for the Jacksonville region.

Upcoming Events - Andra thanked all who contributed to and participated in the events listed on the agenda.

State Science Fair - Betsy Levingston reported on some barriers she met while trying to distribute information to students at the State Science Fair. Lessons were learned during this first year of FEWC involvement. The Career Awareness Committee is discussing the best way to contact this year's students and be better prepared for future competitions.

State Skills USA Competition – Carol Higley provided an update on the competition. Because of travel restrictions Carol was not able to attend in person, but helped organize its activities behind the scenes. The Banner Center For Energy – Karen Simmons – provided on-site support for all three days of the competition, along with Betsy Levingston, Cindy Amor and the local regional workforce board. Betsy also represented FEWC in judging the leadership competition from an interviewing standpoint. Photos of the booth and others from the competition will be posted on the FEWC website.

CEWD Meeting – The meeting will be hosted by FP&L in Juno Beach, May 4th and 5th. The CEWD meeting is open only to CEWD members. Andra will notify FEWC members who registered early about this limitation. Following the CEWD meeting, on May 5th, 12:00 – 5:00 pm, FEWC will hold a face-to-face meeting at FP&L (thanks to Rodney Miller for hosting). Teleconference capability will be available for those unable to attend in person.

Betsy Levingston reported on her experience at the Career Academies on the Hill meeting she attended in Tallahassee. She met Frank Fuller who is excited and anxious to work with the Policy and Education Committee on a career cluster proposal to the federal government. It will be the first in the nation and great for Florida. She will hold a committee meeting and follow-up with Frank to see what materials and information they can provide for him to pursue the proposal. Betsy will send the information out to members and/or include on the agenda for the May 5th meeting.

Kim McDougal, Florida Department of Education reported on the Greenforce Florida Report. It contains 12 recommendations. DOE is working closely with the Banner Center to develop curriculum. Betsy Levingston will be included in their work going forward and was invited to the first meeting. Kim would like to go with Betsy at her next meeting with Frank Fuller.

Kurt Morauer, Banner Center for Construction, informed members that the Banner Center has a 40-foot two-sided trailer that can serve as a rolling billboard used throughout the state at schools and regional workforce boards and that it is specifically designed for recruitment and training. It could be used to advertise job opportunities in energy and alternative energy.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.