

Business Development and Workforce Taskforce Orientation Meeting

Meeting Date: April 15, 2024

Meeting Time: 12:44 PM - 2:06 PM

Location: Bobby Snipes Water Resource Center - Presentation Room

YouTube Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zyw699PTJbU>

Present Taskforce Members:

Commissioner Carol Myers
Wesley Mellina
Ilka McConnell
Michele Pearson Tucker
David Bradley
Broderick Flanigan
Sally Kimel-Sheppard
Matthew Epperson

Facilitator:

Kara Fresk

Guest & Staff:

Alejandra Calva
Myung Cogan
Kenshundria Bailey-Allen
Niki Jones

Absent Taskforce Members:

Tiffany Taylor
Shane Blackwell
Dodd Ferrelle
Al McCall

Meeting Notes:

- I. Commissioner Carol Myers welcomed the committee and covered the Business Development and Workforce Support Task Force Charge.
- II. Presentations of Existing Efforts & Resources in Athens Clarke County
 - Athens Areas Chamber of Commerce Workforce Development Strategic Plan - David Bradley:
 - Raising the Average Household Income
 - Attracting Businesses that contribute to Economic Growth
 - Workforce and Employment Trends - Ilka McConnell
 - Workforce/Employment Overview
 - Bio-Tech Industries & Health Care Wage Data
 - Small Business and Entrepreneurship Efforts- Myung Cogan
 - ARTWORK Professional Workshops
 - Small Business Start/Grow/Finance/Learn/Connect/Innovate Information located on: [Entrepreneurship & Small Business - Athens-Clarke County Economic Development Department \(investathensga.com\)](https://investathensga.com/entrepreneurship-small-business-athens-clarke-county-economic-development-department)
 - Second Chance Committee Efforts - Kenshundria Allen & Sally Kimel-Sheppard
 - Risk and benefits of Second Chance Hiring
 - Diversion Center Specific Programs
 - Action Incorporated/WIOA Certification Courses
 - Workforce Resource Map - Kenshundria Allen: [Workforce Training & Development - Athens-Clarke County Economic Development Department \(investathensga.com\)](https://investathensga.com/workforce-training-development-athens-clarke-county-economic-development-department)
- II. Expectations
 - Task Force Member Responsibilities - Commissioner Carol Myers
 - Group Norms - Kara Fresk

III. Sub-Committee Timeline - Kara Fresk

- April-May One on One Interviews with Committee Members
- May-June Sub-Committee Work Sessions
- July Final Report with ARPA Recommendations
- Expectations & Deliverables
- Inventory
- Potential Solutions
- Recommendations

Worker Empowerment

High Quality Labor Standards | Labor Organizing | Benefits

Sub-Committee Members:

Sally Kimel-Sheppard
Ilka McConnell
Tim Johnson
Broderick Flanigan

High Wage Employment

High Wage Industries

Sub-Committee Members:

Michele Pearson-Tucker
Wesley Mellina
David Bradley

Small Business Development

Cooperative and Worker Owned Businesses

Sub-Committee Members:

Matthew Epperson
Carol Myers

IV. Closing Remarks - Commissioner Carol Myers

- Upcoming Meetings

April 29, 2024 - Full Task Force Meeting : Bobby Snipes Water Resources 12:30PM-2:00PM

- May 13 - Sub-Committee Working Meeting
- May 20 - Sub-Committee Working Meeting
- June 3 - Full Taskforce Meeting - Sub-Committee Presentations
- June 17 - Full Taskforce Meeting - Prioritizing

Recommendation to Mayor & Commission

- June 26 - Mayor & Commission Agenda Report Due
- July 1 - Mayor & Commission Work Session Presentations Due
- July 9 - Mayor & Commission Work Session
- July 16 - Mayor & Commission Agenda Setting Session
- August 6 - Mayor & Commission Voting Session