



**Steel Valley
Authority**

Advisory Board Meeting Minutes September 15, 2021 at 6:00 PM Zoom Meeting



SEWN

ATTENDANCE

Board:	Clairton	William McElligott (for A. Davis)
	Duquesne	
	East Pittsburgh	Tom Michlovic
	Glassport	
	Homestead	
	McKeesport	Lori Schmidt – Patrick Bendel – Tom Maglicco
	Munhall	Tyler Gellasch
	Pittsburgh	Rob Witherell
	Rankin	
	Swissvale	Chris Casavale – Amy Starrett
	Turtle Creek	Colleen Wooten
	West Homestead	
Proxy Votes:	East Pittsburgh	Dave Perla (Chair)
	Homestead	Charles Bennett (Chair)
	Pittsburgh	Sabina Dietrick (Chair)
Staff:	Tom Croft; Bob Value; Carrie Mihalko; Deb Lutz; Anita Prizio	
Solicitor:	Jay Hornack	
Guests:	John Tkach (Keystone Development Partnership); Jennifer Nestor (DLI Oversight); Grant Ervin (City of Pittsburgh)	

Chairwoman Schmidt called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. allowing all members to login.

PROXY VOTE REVIEW – CHAIRWOMAN LORI SCHMIDT

Staff member Carrie Mihalko conducted roll call. Quorum was met and proxy votes acknowledged.

MINUTES

Copies of the minutes were made available in member packets. A modification was noted to remove Jennifer Nestor as having attended the May meeting.

The minutes of the May 2021 meeting were approved with the modification on motion by Tom Michlovic and seconded by Chris Casavale. The motion passed unanimously by members McElligott, Michlovic, Schmidt, Bendel, Maglicco, Gellasch, Witherell, Casavale, Starrett, and Wooten with no abstentions.

STAFF REPORTS

Tom Croft provided the Executive Director Report noting the following highlights:

- A Summit for the Marshall Plan is being held September 27-28 and October 4-5. Hope to use it to bring in resources for the Pittsburgh/Mon-Valley area from the Biden Administration.
- The Louisiana LATTE training has been delayed due to COVID and Hurricane Ida.
- Bringing in LATTE alumni and other colleagues to address layoff aversion policy. Working with local and national legislators to garner support.
- The Fellowship Program will have 5 hosts for the Fall 2021 program. Since inception, the program has graduated over 50 fellows with one landing in the White House.

Bob Value provided the following highlights on SEWN:

- SEWN closed out program year 2020-21 saving 1497 jobs. Closed files on 35 companies with 21 stabilized as successful.
- A few referrals from the Covid Recovery Program did not end up at official clients.
- Directors all created regional marketing plans that were rolled into a statewide initiative. COVID is still prohibiting in person outreach efforts with many referral sources.
- DL&I implement new reporting that's typically related to economic and workforce development. Have tweaked Salesforce to allow better reporting.
- Related to manufacturing companies, SEWN is watching currency controls and how supply chains are being interrupted and driving up costs/delivery times.

Tom Michlovic asked about the low numbers in Allegheny County. How do we better respond to local areas? Bob mentioned the difficulties with local economic and workforce agencies.

GUEST PRESENTATION

Grant Ervin, Chief Resilience Officer for the City of Pittsburgh, works in policy and city operations around resiliency. He's been working on the Marshall Plan initiative along with officers in Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, and PA to generate projects laid out in the plan. Also transitioning the City of Pittsburgh pension fund to ESG policy similar to NYC.

Tom Michlovic asked if this would continue with the potential Gainey administration. Grant noted they are hoping to create a guidepost to help establish these programs between administrations. Other cities in the program are facing similar situations and sharing best practices.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chris Casavale shared the current the financial statements. Revenue of over \$1.1 million in first 8 months and SVA is on track to spend the \$1.6 as noted in the 2021 budget. The Authority is in a good liquid position.

The Finance Committee report was approved on a motion by Amy Starrett and seconded by Rob Witherell. The motion passed unanimously by members McElligott, Michlovic, Schmidt, Bendel, Maglicco, Gellasch, Witherell, Casavale, Starrett, and Wooten with no abstentions.

SECRETARY REPORT

Amy Starrett highlighted correspondence which was provided in advance to all members. Tom Croft commented on the letter from Breen to expand the BRT – this project is to improve access to our local communities.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Tom Michlovic noted there were no meetings. A recommendation was made for diversity, equity, and inclusion training for staff and board members.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Tyler Gellasch noted there were no updates – tabled to next meeting.

PROGRAM/TECH REVIEW COMMITTEE

Carrie Mihalko provided an update on the by-law meetings with local communities. All municipalities were responsive, and it is anticipated this project can be completed before year end. Further conversation will be needed surrounding one municipality retaining majority voting.

The Program/Tech Review report was approved on a motion by Chris Casavale and seconded by Tom Michlovic. The motion passed unanimously by members McElligott, Michlovic, Schmidt, Bendel, Maglicco, Gellasch, Witherell, Casavale, Starrett, and Wooten with no abstentions.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 21-02 provided by AmeriServ to retain official signatures on record. Discussion ensued related to shopping for another provider. Staff will research and report back.

The Resolution was approved on a motion by Chris Casavale and seconded by Amy Starrett. The motion passed unanimously by members McElligott, Michlovic, Schmidt, Bendel, Maglicco, Gellasch, Witherell, Casavale, Starrett, and Wooten with no abstentions.

The formal meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.