



VIRGINIA INITIATIVE FOR
**GROWTH &
OPPORTUNITY**
IN EACH REGION
REGIONAL COUNCIL 9

**REGIONAL COUNCIL 9
TALENT DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE MEETING
OCTOBER 18, 2024
11:00 am to 11:45 AM
1001 Research Park Blvd., Suite 301, Charlottesville VA 22901
In-Person Meeting**

MINUTES

Attending: Ethan Dunstan, Roque Castro, Cathy Schafrik, Rob Archer

Absent: Cheryl Kirby, Kim Blosser, Jean Runyon, Tina Weaver

Staff: Shannon Holland, Christie Taylor

Virtual Guests: Joseph Dennie, DHCD, Cody Anderson, DHCD

1. Welcome

Ethan Dunstan called the meeting to order at 11:06 AM.

2. Roll Call

A roll call was performed, as noted above.

3. Public Comment

No public comment was submitted or made at the meeting.

4. Approve Meeting Minutes

Roque Castro made a motion to accept the Meeting Minutes as presented while noting that members present today didn't participate at that meeting. Cathy Schafrik seconded the motion. The motion carried.

5. Grant Proposal Discussion: Talent Pathways Initiative Letter of Interest

Shannon Holland reviewed the Talent Pathway Initiative (TPI) Letter of Interest (LOI) process, as it differs from the application process. She noted that if the council accepts this letter at the October 29 Council Meeting, then there would need to be a motion allowing staff, along with the applicant team, to complete the DHCD application based on the letter details. The application would be due at noon on November 1, just two days after the meeting.

The LOI from CvilleBioHub for a BioBridge TPI project was reviewed by six council members. The main discussion centered on match. Staff shared that there is currently about a \$20,000 gap in the match needed for the project. The project team has a plan to address. The Task Force discussed ideas for helping close this gap including sharing with the Virginia Funders Network (VFN) and the PATH Foundation. It was also suggested other community colleges might be able to submit a match.

Roque Castro offered to reach out to VFN and PATH on the applicant's behalf.

6. Other Business

Shannon Holland shared that Region 3 was leading a statewide talent planning grant initiative along with Region 2 and they were asking for other regions to support. To meet the deadline, support would have to be discussed at the October 29 Council Meeting. That grant team has committed to providing a one-page summary and requests to staff for the meeting. In general, the \$100,000 planning grant would go



VIRGINIA INITIATIVE FOR
**GROWTH &
OPPORTUNITY**
IN EACH REGION
REGIONAL COUNCIL 9

to the Virginia Chamber as part of the Blueprint Virginia initiative beginning January 2025. The chamber would include an Artificial Intelligence Statewide Landscape Assessment within their discussions across the state to consider how workforce training programs may need to adjust to the occupational demand changes presented by AI. Each region that supports is asked to sign a letter of support and support a regional private sector member and staff to participate. Roque Castro agreed to serve on behalf of Region 9, if appointed.

There was discussion and concern on the emphasis on AI, as the infrastructure and regulations for it are lagging. This concern will be brought up with the Council in discussion.

7. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:59 PM.

DRAFT