ATTENDANCE: Ronald Burkle, Judy Diogo, Sandy Gray, Karen Hutchison, Sam Lathem, Joel Littlejohn, Janis Nesterak, Karen Pickard, Bob Suppe, Frank Vavala, Manera Constantine, and Janet Nichols

Mrs. Nichols welcomed each member as they joined the meeting virtually, took attendance and reviewed the meeting rules. Chairman Sam Lathem then welcomed everyone and thanked them for taking time to attend. Mr. Lathem called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. Judy Diogo moved to accept the minutes of the June 25, 2020 DACCTE Meeting, as presented. Dr. Joel Littlejohn seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

The Budgetary Expenditure Report as of October 12, 2020 was distributed to the Council. Mrs. Judy Diogo moved to accept the report as presented, subject to audit. Dr. Joel Littlejohn seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

FISCAL YEAR 2022 STATE BUDGET REQUEST

Dr. Constantine presented DACCTE’s FY 2022 State Budget request to the Council for approval in the amount of $341,200. This request represents level funding for the upcoming fiscal year. The Office of Management of Budget (OMB) administers and oversees the State Budget process guidelines and procedures. OMB instructed all agencies to submit a Five Percent Reduction List with explanations of how the reductions would impact the agency. Council members also received a copy of this listing and the FY 2022 Proposed State Budget Narrative pages which are included in DACCTE’s request.

Dr. Joel Littlejohn moved to approve the FY 2022 State Budget Request and submit it to OMB by the October 15, 2020 deadline. Mrs. Judy Diogo seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Perkins V State Plan for Career and Technical Education (CTE)

The Perkins V – CTE State Plan was approved by the State Board of Education in March and submitted to the US Office of Education for approval in April 2020. It became effective July 1, 2020 and Delaware will receive approximately 4.5 million dollars in funding per year for the next four years as a result of this legislation.

School CTE Program Monitoring Visits

Dr. Constantine reported during the June 25 Council meeting, that due to Covid-19 restrictions the staff conducted the Spring CTE Program monitoring visits by contacting the six school Principals requesting the names of the Lead Teacher for the CTE programs at their schools. The teachers were emailed a copy of the visitation questionnaire and asked to complete and return it to the DACCTE office via email.

Given the current virtual/hybrid learning atmosphere, the staff plans to proceed with this same process for the schools on the Fall schedule which are: Appoquinimink, Caesar Rodney, Dickinson, Mt. Pleasant, Newark and Woodbridge High Schools.

Delaware Career Compass, Teacher Guide and Occupation & Industry Projections

The Delaware Career Compass and accompanying Teachers Guide are produced and published by the Delaware Department of Labor Office of Occupational and Labor Market Information (OOLMI) annually. Dr. Constantine serves as a member of the Compass Advisory Committee and provides input into the development of the Compass. The 2020-2021 edition was delivered to the schools in September. Dr. Constantine highlighted pages (54-61) of the Compass that relate to Career and Technical Education and the back of the magazine which shows DACCTE’s website address where a link to the virtual Compass can be found. Council Members received a copy of the 2020 – 2021 edition of the Compass by mail along with a copy of the Delaware 2028 Occupation & Industry Projections which was published in July, 2020. This publication gives a ten-year projection of occupation and industry job market information and is updated every two years by the Delaware Department of Labor.

Dr. Constantine shared some state and national unemployment statistics from July and August, 2020. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Delaware for August was 8.9% which was down from 10.5% in July. This indicates there were 44,000 unemployed Delawareans in August. The U.S. unemployment rate was 8.4% in August down from 10.2% in July.

National Policy News

The National apprenticeship program guidelines were initially established in the 1937 Apprenticeship Act. The U.S. House of Representatives has introduced a new bill establishing the National Apprenticeship Act of 2020. This new Act will include pre-apprenticeships and youth apprenticeships as well as updated guidelines. Over three billion dollars are requested for 2021-2025 to expand and improve programs at the State level and could impact Career and Technical Education.
McKinsey & Company Report on Workers

Council Members received statistical data tables from a study which was conducted and published by McKinsey & Company entitled “The Near-Term Impact of Coronavirus on Workers”. These tables showed the impact Covid-19 has had on the jobs market in general and gives specifics on which job clusters are most affected. According to this study, forty-four to fifty-seven million jobs are vulnerable with the Accommodation and Food Service areas being affected the most.

STAFF RETIREMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr. Constantine informed the Council Members that she has submitted her letter of intent to retire as the Executive Director of DACCTE effective January 01, 2021. She expressed her sincere gratitude to the Council Members and says she feels very fortunate to have worked with such dedicated and supportive members and staff. Delaware Career and Technical Education programs have excelled because of people like them and she is very thankful for their support, guidance and friendship over the past years.

Chairman Lathem has appointed a four-member search committee naming Dr. Karen Hutchison to serve as Chair with members Mark Freidly, Sandy Gray and Robert Suppe. The committee met at the DACCTE office on October 7 and had an online Zoom meeting on October 13 to discuss procedures and develop the Job Description, Vacancy Notice and Application. All three documents will be available on the DACCTE website. In addition, an ad will be placed in the News Journal and on ZipRecruiter and the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Education Associates at the Department of Education will be contacted to share the information with their respective CTE Teachers. The tentative closing date for submission of application materials is set for November 8. All applicant materials will be submitted via email to Janet Nichols, DACCTE staff member.

Dr. Hutchison thanked the committee members for their involvement and assistance in gathering information and generating the necessary documents. Chairman Lathem extended his thanks to the committee and expressed the importance of finding the right candidate to continue the work of the Council.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Janis Nesterak asked that the minutes show that the General Public had access to this meeting and there were no attendees nor were there any public comments at this time.
UPCOMING MEETING

Dr. Constantine asked everyone to mark their calendar for the next DACCTE meeting which is scheduled for Wednesday, December 16, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. At this time the meeting is scheduled to be held virtually via Zoom.

Note: Following the October meeting the next meeting date was changed to December 17.

BUSINESS MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Judy Diogo moved to adjourn the business meeting, Janis Nesterak seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.