

Present: Matt Cavalli, Mary Gustas, Eric Stewart, Ann Woolley

Absent: Tricia Edgell, Russell Lauderdale, Juan Ortiz, Takara Page, Shawn Premer, Carla Sones, Beth Washington

KVCC: Rachel Bair, Paige Eagan, Craig Jbara, Tracy Labadie, Vic Ledbetter, Kate Miller, Tom Sutton

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1. Acceptance of Agenda
  - a. The agenda was accepted as written
  
2. Review of CACT Advisory Board member term limits
  - a. Ann Woolley and Beth Washington have reached the end of their terms on the CACT Advisory Board
  - b. Craig Jbara thanked them for their participation in the board and asked for recommendations for replacement members from their organizations.
    - i. Additionally, there was a request for other recommendations as more board members from other organizations would be welcome
  
3. Grant Updates
  - a. Kate Miller presented the following grant updates
    - i. SNAP-Ed
      - Currently running the final cohort for the SNAP-Ed funded class called The Learning Kitchen: High School Edition.
        - a. This class was sub contracted through Bronson for the Michigan Fitness Foundation.
        - b. There were 30 families in the previous cohort with the goal of reaching 120 families for the entire program.
        - c. For future funding, KVCC has been invited to apply as an individual organization, instead of going through Bronson.
      - The funding for SNAP-Ed 2023 has already been awarded to KVCC.
        - a. In October a new project plan will be created
      - Offering this class virtually has created opportunities for a diverse group of participants
    - ii. MiLEAP
      - MILEAP provides training for individuals in the community who have a high school degree or GED and have some level of barrier in their life (single parent, formerly incarcerated, etc.)
      - Just completed the third cohort for MiLEAP CNC, with the next one scheduled for September of this year
        - a. This 3 week program requires 75 hours of technical training with 35 hours of work place navigation



- MiLEAP Medical coding and Billing Academy is currently underway
  - The state has awarded KVCC Grove's campus a time extension due to the delay in hiring and training for MiLEAP staff
  - Recruitment for the manufacturing cohorts, specifically CNC, has proved to be a challenge.
  - Thriving wages have been provided to graduates of the program
  - CNA position still open for fulltime and part-time positions
    - a. There are a couple barriers that continue to present a problem in hiring a CNA instructor
      - i. Many organizations and facilities are competing for nurses and a nurse is required.
      - ii. While KVCC has increased the wages, we are still not competitive. For example, KVCC cannot provide sign on bonuses among other benefits offered to qualified individuals
    - b. Three candidates have applied and none have been qualified
    - c. Request made for referrals for qualified individuals who can be released from employer for four hours a week
  - CNA/Patient Care is a high demand field with a lot of funding
  - KVCC was invited to join a CNA task force at the state level
  - Currently considering more programs that will yield interest with manufacturing and healthcare being the main focus
- b. Rachel Bair presented the following grant updates
- i. SNAP-Ed
    - There's a policy system environment component to the SNAP-Ed grants
    - Someone has been trying to build connections with school food service's to learn what kind of support and intervention would be welcome and needed.
      - a. Unfortunately, educational facilities are currently experiencing a period of turmoil within the school system and there has been a surprising amount of resistance.
    - The SNAP-Ed program is meant to build supportive environment for students who are receiving direct education
  - ii. Pending request to Michigan Health Endowment Foundation Grant
    - This is a two-year grant that will assist in creating a culinary workforce type line. Start with GED completing program with



- partnership with Goodwill and YWCA (food service in childcare facility) and has support from Bronson and Kalamazoo Literacy Council.
- Announcement of whether proposal was funded is expected around August 11
- iii. Currently waiting on final confirmation from USDA regarding the USDA Local Food Promotion Grant
- USDA is actively working on the paperwork and if awarded, they will provide the Food Innovations Center (FIC) funding to purchase food from local farms as well as distribute the food in creative ways to communities who lack access to fresh food
    - a. There will also be funding for staff
  - Looking to implement this funding in 2023 due to it being late in the seasons to have farmers pivot to a different food distribution system
- iv. Currently the FIC is halfway through developing the new horticulture program
- Application to the higher learning commission is in process
  - Daily inquiries from interested students which indicates there will be a full cohort once rolled out
  - Discussion regarding whether or not it will be transferable
    - a. It is being explored but research shows that it is difficult to map from a specialized program into a bachelors program so it is not likely there will be a 1:1 designation
    - b. Research also shows that the majority of students want a certificate as opposed to an associates
    - c. Additionally, to make it transferable would put limitations on what we can be taught
- v. USDA local food promotion program is currently wrapping up the funding from the 2018 award which funded the purchase of equipment such as a corn de-kerneller and carrot stick maker both of which use compressed air which helps staff avoid injury
- vi. The 2021 award funded two full-time positions, which are now filled: Food System Education Program Manager and the Food Hub Outreach and Communication Coordinator
- vii. Discussion about outreach to high school students to show there are exciting alternatives available such as the new horticulture program.



4. Kate Miller presented the following Career and Continuing Education updates:
  - a. Currently running All Things Possible through Kalamazoo Parks and Recreation
    - i. Faculty is delivering photo editing training for 40 different students
  - b. KRESA YOU students just completed a phlebotomy cohort on July 12<sup>th</sup> Thursday
  - c. Dental Radiography is scheduled to begin in September
  - d. Community Culinary
    - i. Currently exploring additional culinary programming for the Center for Blind Services due to the success of the previous collaboration
    - ii. Hosted the international sales team from Kalsec for customized Thai workshop
    - iii. In the planning stages for open enrollment culinary programming
  - e. Corporate Training
    - i. Working to schedule a welding training for Shiloh Industries (formerly Benteler)
    - ii. Leadership classes are in high demand with the roster for the fall training already full
    - iii. Electrical training is also in high demand
    - iv. Ben Ash is instructing several custom CNC trainings as well as G&M Codes
    - v. Just acquired Kalamazoo Candle as a new customer and ran a successful Lean 5s training this summer
  - f. Cannabis Certification Programming
    - i. Recently pulled a report that shows there are 74 students in the cannabis certification programs and it's going well in regards to completion of the programs
    - ii. Base wage for graduates is \$15/hour
    - iii. KVCC Groves Campus recently hosted our first industry event
      - This event was free for students who have paid to be in a cannabis certification program
      - It covered workplace navigation as well as preparing the students to market themselves for the industry. This included mock interviews and reviewing individual career planning
      - Additionally, the students were able to tour a large grow facility for both indoor and outdoor grow areas. They also toured a space that was more retail focused



5. Tom Sutton provided the following Technical Training Services (TTS) updates
  - a. All the students from the Wind Turbine Technician Academy (WTTA) 25 graduated in June
    - i. All students had jobs secured before graduation
  - b. WTTA26 began on July 6th
  - c. The Technical Training Services Department continues to schedule safety and compliance training for municipalities such as confined spaces, fall protections, elevated work platform, etc.
  - d. Project work secured for learning opportunities for WTTA
    - i. Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan wind turbine
      - The electrical design is almost complete
      - WTTA trainees were able to build some panels for the turbine
      - WTTA26 will be in the field at this turbine at the end of July
  - e. TTS entered into an agreement with DTE to operate and maintain the two direct drive machines in McBain MI, where our current machines are located
    - i. Some training of staff by manufacturer takes place in July
  - f. The wind turbine in Traverse City that has been part of the WTTA field service trips to be decommissioned and donated to the academy, including labor and transport
  - g. Staff is going through their annual recertification period
    - i. Many certifications must be maintained to operate in this space and conduct legal training
      - Fall protection
      - Rescue
      - Confined space operations
      - Arc flash
      - Qualified electrical worker
      - Advanced first aid
      - Competent person fall protection
      - Global wind organization training certifications
  - h. Wind Energy and Technical Training passed two ISO 9001:2015 audits
    - i. Received a positive outcome from the audit with no findings and no comments recorded
    - ii. Instructors had to teach to the auditor
    - iii. Equipment maintenance records reviewed
    - iv. Certifications for instructors and tools reviewed
  - i. Developing proposals for skills assessments for several employers
  - j. Expanding our FANUC offerings this year
  - k. Supporting summer camps this summer
  - l. Great participation in MICareer Quest



- i. Race the robot and Drive the Robot were popular activities
        - m. BZEDEE crediting body has asked TTS to become the global train the trainer program
          - i. Several International training proposals being worked on for Vietnam, Thailand and Japan
        - n. Australian teachers to arrive August 8th for their teacher training in wind energy
        - o. Currently working on solar integration competencies due to the global demand for wind turbine technicians to perform maintenance for solar as well as wind
          - i. Large donations received and will be collaborated on with the ELT program
          - ii. WTTA26 class will get four solar training competencies involving solar panel
        - p. Discussion of state funding being available for water treatment and replacement; about 1.2 trillion.
          - i. The main barrier is the staff shortage within TTS
            - The open wind instructor position has remained unfilled for nearly a year since KVCC cannot compete with wind technicians making high money within the industry.
            - TTS is also about to lose an instructor to deployment.
6. Rachel Bair provided the following Food Innovations Center (FIC) updates
  - a. Currently there are seven youth interns from the KRESA YOU program working at the FIC for two days a week
    - i. These interns are working onsite with Ben Bylsma, then going offsite to work in gardens within the community
  - b. In the beginning phase of exploring noncredit certification in sustainable self-sufficiency and community resilience, which would bundle a lot of the community classes we currently offer plus a few new ones
    - i. Part of that exploration is asking what value this certification would have and what sort of backing does it need to be legitimate
    - ii. There is demand for it but what would the certificate mean to anyone other than the repeat students
  - c. The FIC will be hosting the Opportunity for Education Dinner on September 22<sup>nd</sup>
7. Vic Ledbetter provided the following Law Enforcement & Academy updates
  - a. Police Academy recruitment from diverse populations continue to face barriers
    - i. There is a strong need for women and people of color to join law enforcement
  - b. Two cadets were injured during the last academy, therefore they could not complete their licensing exams



- i. One will take the exit exam in August but is currently employed by City of Kalamazoo
    - c. The next academy starts on August 24<sup>th</sup>
      - i. There are currently 28 cadets; there would have 30 but two could not pass the physical agility test
    - d. Continuing the internal partnership with the KVCC criminal justice program; specifically Karen Rivard along with WMU
8. Paige Eagan provided the following updates
  - a. Health careers continue to move forward, including the HLC approval LPN license practical nursing certificate, which is laid into general health sciences
  - b. Collaborating with the Career and Continuing Education department regarding the stackable approach for search tech; sterile processing
    - i. Patrick Joswick has taken the lead on looking at the outside accreditation
  - c. In the beginning stages of the Respiratory Program looking at alternate partnership with sister community colleges for KVCC's co-arc respiratory accreditation.
  - d. Continue to look at skilled trades area for partnership
  - e. Internal preparation for evolving partnerships
  - f. Currently exploring how to best prepare KVCC staff and faculty for the surge in adult learners as well as how to meet their needs creatively and how to connect back to non-credit programs
9. Eric Stewart presented the following
  - a. The new Career Center building is on pace to break ground at the end of September
    - i. Current economic climate makes this an inopportune time to for construction projects but the project is moving forward
    - ii. Moving from cost navigation in to the construction document side of the plan
  - b. Currently refreshing the EFP program curriculum plus developing new curriculum for across the state and individual design for CTE
10. In addition to requesting agenda topics for the next Advisory Board meeting, Craig Jbara will also request member preference to conduct this meeting in-person or via Zoom.
11. Meeting adjourned

**Next Meeting: October 7, 2022**  
**Kalamazoo Valley Groves Campus (or *Virtually through Zoom*)**  
**7107 Elm Valley Drive | Kalamazoo MI 49009**

