

STATE APPRENTICESHIP ADVISORY COUNCIL
September 21, 2007 - Jacksonville, Florida
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union Hall #177
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairperson; Dr. Bonnie Marmor, Vice Chancellor for the Division of Workforce Education, Donna Beasley, Lori Blake, Billy Campbell, Henry Gonzalez, Al Herndon, Cindy Johnson, James Nolan, Arnold Pruitt and Jerry Thomas. **Members Absent:** John Spinella.

Others Present: Garfield Garner, ETA, USDOL, Regional Apprenticeship Director, represented the ETA at Council Meeting.

Nancy Cordill, Bureau Chief, Career, Technical and Apprenticeship Programs and Steve Campora, Apprenticeship Program Director, were present at the Apprenticeship Council meeting.

Speaker, Jerry M. Painter, President of Painter Masonry, Gainesville; and Chairman of the Board for the Florida Masonry Apprenticeship Foundation.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting of the State Apprenticeship Advisory Council was called to order at 9:00 a.m. at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union Hall #177, Jacksonville, Florida

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

Dr. Bonnie Marmor, Chairperson, welcomed the Council Members and attendees. Council Members and DOE Apprenticeship Representatives were recognized.

Mr. Dennis M. Jauch, Chief Operating Officer for the Pinellas County Education Centers was in attendance and was introduced to the Council Members and attendees.

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARDS

Chairperson Marmor presented a Meritorious Service Award to Mr. William B. Gay of W.W. Gay Mechanical Contractors, Jacksonville and H. E. "Buck" Autrey of Miller Electric Company, Jacksonville for their outstanding contribution and leadership for Florida's Registered Apprenticeship Educational System. Accepting for Mr. Gay was Mr. Roberts, and accepting for Mr. Autrey was Mr. Stallings. Both gentlemen spoke to the need and success of Registered Apprenticeship in Florida and how Registered Apprenticeship is an integral component of a successful construction business in North Florida.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the May 11, 2007 Council Meeting were corrected to reflect correct designation of the State Advisory Council; and a change was made to reflect that Jerry Thomas was present for the last Council Meeting. Minutes were approved.

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NEWS FROM USDOL – Regional Director Visit

Mr. Garfield G. Garner, Regional Director, USDOL/ETA/OA was in attendance for the meeting and presented an update on the USDOL/Florida partnership. He said Florida is in good standing with the USDOL and the relationship was healthy and strong. He spoke about the USDOL Innovation Conference where Apprenticeship was the highlight of the Conference. Mr. Garner noted that this year is the 70th Anniversary of the Fitzgerald Act, which established the national Apprenticeship legislation. The U. S. Secretary of Labor complemented the Apprenticeship Educational System. Secretary Garner commented that the U. S. Assistant Secretary of Labor issued a policy that will integrate Apprenticeship with the Workforce Education System. Mr. Garner discussed the new Apprenticeship RAPIDS data system which will be an update of the Registered Apprenticeship Information System (RAIS). Mr. Garner discussed the Federal Acceptance of Florida's State Apprenticeship Plan. The Provisional Letter of Acceptance will await the final Recognition from the U.S. Solicitors' Office.

PRESENTATION BY PRESIDENT OF PAINTER MASONRY, INC., GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA.

Jerry M. Painter, a Bricklayer and President of Painter Masonry, and Chairman of the Board for the Florida Masonry Apprenticeship Foundation, presented an emotional and inspiring address to the attendees. He recapped some history of the Apprenticeship educational system in Florida. He discussed the importance of Apprenticeship's role in the production of a skilled workforce. He presented an overview of the economy, work ethic, partnership with local educational agencies, and leadership among Apprenticeship sponsors. Painter noted that the economy is in a current corrective state, but that the future appears positive. He reminded all present about the need to prepare for the up-swing that will surely come. He encouraged all to keep as many apprentices as possible because when that up-swing comes, we will need all the journeymen that can be found. He recounted the development of the Florida Masonry Apprenticeship Foundation, stressed quality of workers and companies. His presentation was filled with some of his own applicable humor and history in the construction business (Brick and Block). His final comment: "Make a Difference in your life!"

FOLLOW-UP ITEMS FROM MAY MEETING

Nancy Cordill discussed the outcome of the 2007 Legislative session related to the provision for special funding for the expansion of Apprenticeship programs.

Steve Campora discussed the use of electronic signatures on USDOL official documents. He presented to the Council a draft letter addressed to Garfield Garner of the USDOL requesting the approval of the use of electronic signatures. Motion was made by either Al Herndon or Henry Gonzalez and seconded by Donna Beasley to send the letter for approval.

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Florida Apprenticeship Association Update - Cindy Johnson, Council Member and President of the Association, gave a report on the FACTE Conference and the Apprenticeship Division. By-Laws of the Florida Apprenticeship Association were available for attendees at the Council Meeting. Ms. Johnson discussed the dues structure for FACTE membership. A Motion to approve dues of \$65 (\$40 to FACTE, \$25 to Apprenticeship Division) was made by Donna Beasley and seconded by Al Herndon. Motion passed.

Dr. Marmor commented on the significance of Apprenticeship's affiliation with FACTE. The FACTE affiliation will provide a broader exposure for Apprenticeship to guidance counselors, business and industry and the opportunity to interact with attendees at the annual conference for Career and Technical Educators.

APPRENTICESHIP OFFICE UPDATE

Steve Campora discussed the new OPPAGA Apprenticeship Description, linking with local educational agencies. He commented on the new program development for Heavy Duty Truck (Cement and Block). Council Member Al Herndon discussed initial plans for program development.

A copy of Senate Bill 988, addressing high risk offenders, was made available to attendees. Donna Beasley, Council Member, presented examples from the Fort Myers area that made the present law necessary. The Jessica Lunsford Law was discussed. Attorneys met to remove confusing language and Ms. Beasley noted that Senate Bill 988 removed that language from law.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Program Expansion and Development – Billy Campbell

Billy Campbell presented an update on Committee activities. Jon Goins, Apprenticeship Training Representative, commented about new programs he and other ATRs had developed and those new developments could be reported by the Committee on Expansion and Development.

Public Awareness and Marketing – James Nolan

James Nolan thanked Chairperson Marmor and guest speaker Jerry Painter for presentations addressing awareness and marketing themes. He stressed the importance of the Florida Apprenticeship Association and its affiliation with FACTE. He discussed an Apprenticeship Proclamation for March 2008. Mr. Nolan noted that the Apprenticeship Veterans Brochure should be available on-line for use by individual program sponsors. Cindy Johnson discussed the Apprenticeship Banner for the FACTE Conference and other Apprenticeship meetings.

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Rules and Regulations – Lori Blake

Lori Blake gave an overview of a very busy and active committee. She thanked all committee Members and ATR Lauver for their dedicated services. Changes to Chapters 38H-16, Apprenticeship Programs, and 38H-20, State Apprenticeship Advisory Council, were discussed. A two-page Summary of Changes proposed by the Rules Committee was available for all attendees. Ms. Blake accepted comments from attendees. Secretary Garner, USDOL, was impressed by Rule Changes and updating of State Statute 446. Dr. Marmor thanked the Committee for their services.

Council Roundtable

Council Member Lori Blake inquired about the Apprenticeship web site and the DOE contact/staff member Marilyn Hatch. Mr. Campora noted that the web site project is continuing at a slower pace due to the lack of funding for full implementation.

Several Council Members commented on the requirement for the ten-hour OSHA credentials on federal jobs.

Audience attendees made comments particular to their area. Council Member James Nolan suggested recognition of Meritorious Service for members of the Apprenticeship Community. Dr. Marmor and Mr. Campora indicated that a procedural plan will be developed for presentation of Meritorious Recognition.

Council Member Donna Beasley inquired about the Florida Trend Magazine and Chairperson Marmor discussed plans for an Apprenticeship article. Dr. Marmor indicated this was still being pursued with the publication.

Chairperson Marmor discussed an update on finalists for the position of Commissioner of the Florida Department of Education. Dr. Marmor reviewed budgetary constraints of the Department of Education and requirements for Council meetings.

A Motion to meet in March 2008, in conjunction with Apprenticeship Day, passed. A possible January Council teleconference may be conducted if needed.

Audience Participation

Lionel Gonzalez, Director of Training for the Hillsborough Plumbing, Heating, and Cooling Contractors GNJ, discussed Certification and Journeyman recognition. Several ideas were exchanged; and the Apprenticeship Office will review suggestions and make recommendations.

Laura Laseman, former Director of Training for the Northeast Builders Association in Jacksonville, expressed her thanks for her Meritorious Award at the May Council meeting.

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Nancy Cordill - Retirement

Nancy Cordill, Bureau Chief, Career, Technical and Apprenticeship Programs, announced her retirement from the Department of Education as effective January 2008. She recounted her career, mentioned her initial Apprenticeship mentoring from Orange County Schools' Technical Center Director, Bob Clark. Nancy discussed her participation and service with Apprenticeship, staff, program sponsors, and local educational Technical Centers. She concluded by expressing her admiration for, and the effectiveness of, the Apprenticeship Educational System. Nancy received a standing ovation from the attendees for her dedication and service to Apprenticeship.

Chairperson Marmor expressed her appreciation to Ms. Cordill for her dedication and outstanding service with the Florida Department of Education.

FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING

Next Council meeting will be held in March 2008 in Tallahassee.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 a.m.