Business Advocacy Council

Westerville Area Chamber office 99 Commerce Park Dr. 43082

Minutes Tuesday, January 10, 2022, 3:30-4:45 PM

**Welcome & Introductions**, Jeff Akers

**Members of Committee Teams**

* Healthcare – Andy H.
* Taxation/Worker’s Comp. – Brandon/Charlene
* Workforce: WorkWISE – John Kellogg/Janet/Gene
  + Cataloging Workforce Business Resources: <https://www.westervillechamber.com/workforce>
    - This resource is good for HR folks to source items.
    - The next step is a teacher externship to develop best practices to take back into the classroom.

**Blueprint for Economic Forecast**, Rick Carfagna, Sr. Gov. Affairs Ohio Chamber

* Web content is available here: <https://ohiochamber.com/blueprint-page/>.
* This blueprint is designed to capitalize on policy issues that enable businesses to take advantage of the available workforce in Ohio.
* There are six main categories where the Ohio Chamber has found that the State can improve based on the following recommendations.
  + Education & Workforce Recommendations:
    - Reduce Barriers to Employment
    - Expand Education and Job Training
    - Grow Ohio’s Population & Recruit out-of-state workers
    - Modernized Ohio’s Workforce for in-demand occupations now and in the future
  + Sense of Place Recommendations:
    - Improve Affordability that allows for general wealth building
    - Improve health outcomes and address drug crisis
    - Further understanding opportunities for Ohio’s Natural Amenities
  + Taxes & Cost Recommendations
    - Target Comprehensive tax reform
    - Improve the municipal tax complexity and burden
    - Conduct further analysis on the business gateway’s impact on businesses
  + Innovation and collaboration recommendations:
    - Expand venture capital
    - Increase small business support
    - Transition manufacturing to modern equipment
    - Exact balanced comprehensive data privacy legislation
  + Business Friendliness Recommendations
    - Expand cleanup of regulatory policies
    - Create efficiency and transparency of license and permit applications
  + Infrastructure Recommendations
    - Improve energy transmission and distribution systems
    - Advocate for transportation improvements
    - Improve broadband access
* Other updates:
  + Distractive Driver Bill did pass and will take effect in 90 days
  + Landscape with the new legislature
  + Rising legislative issues

**Future Meeting Topics**

* State Budget
* Legislative Roundtable
* MORPC Smart Hub – Joe Garrity connection

**Reminders**:

* Monday, Jan. 23 Regional Economic Forecast, Bill Lafayette 9:45 AM; Annual Meeting, Awards, and Innovation Showcase 11:30 AM
* Careertown.net has an event to recruit people for tech jobs. They need more employers to ensure prospective employees get opportunities to apply for jobs. Contact Jeannie Mock for more information: [jmok@omnialliancellc.com](mailto:jmok@omnialliancellc.com).
* Next Meetings: Feb. 7, March 7, April 4 and always at 3:30PM

**Adjourn**: 4:40 PM

**Attendees**: Jeff Akers, Amy Balster, Laura Hartman, Gene Hollins, John Kellogg, Brandon Lawson, Jeannie Mok, and Michael McGreevy. Staff member: Janet Tressler-Davis