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.
* 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