



**ARPA Work Force Development Committee  
Meeting Minutes – Wednesday, July 1, 2021  
1:00pm Virtual Zoom Webinar**

**Attendance:**

**Committee Members Present:** Co-Chair CJ Bell, Staff Attorney Mengting Chen, Ed Capodanno, Jim Maravelias, Ayanna Khan, Guillermina Gonzalez, Dominique Truitt, Charles A. Madden, Andrew McKnight, Markevis Gideon, Mark Murowany.

**Proceedings:**

- Meeting called to order at 1:04 p.m. by Co-Chair Bell
- Opening Remarks by Co-Chair Bell, including the overview of the committee funding and deadline of Aug 31<sup>st</sup> to provide funding recommendations.
- Co-Chair Bell discussed the ARPA Two-Part Test for Eligibility
- Committee members inquired about qualified census tract, how county defined disadvantaged community with CARES Act funding, and research regarding the disproportionate impact COVID-19 has had on black & brown entrepreneurs.
  - Wilmington Alliance, who is spearheading this study, was brought up as a suggested presenter for next meeting.
- Committee Member Gonzalez shared national data regarding emerging and declining career occupations
- Committee members discussed what should be included in workforce development criteria.
  - Committee members agreed to make funding recommendations eligible for workforce development agencies, and small business/nonprofits
  - Committee members agreed to 100 employees or less to be defined as a small business
  - Committee members agreed to targeting specific industries such as trades, tech, and advanced manufacturing
- Committee members agreed to the creation of sub-committees for more efficient discussion regarding critical questions.
- Next meeting will be during the week of July 12<sup>th</sup>. Co-Chair Bell will send out available dates.

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**Public Comment:**

- Floor was opened for public comment.
- Leah Coles from Goodwill asked will there be separate criteria for small businesses and nonprofits? Additionally, the outcomes & goals for this committee?

**Adjournment:**

- Co-Chair Bell adjourned meeting at 2:16 p.m.