



A Chester County Economic Development Council initiative

## SEI Board MINUTES

April 21, 2021

4:00-5:30pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85313651779?pwd=M3lQNjNzV21lOUJsU3VQamxVV1IzUT09>

Meeting ID: 853 1365 1779 Passcode: 240506

- **Welcome (1 min) Paul**

Pat	Bokovitz	Chester County Department of Community Development
Sherry	Cockerham	Chester County Economic Development Council
Michael	Cromer	Pennoni Associates, Inc.
Nathan	Edmunds	Univest Bank
Skelly	Holmbeck	iBuild Global (was Advanced Geo until 11-2019)
Wayne	James	Pipe Reps Inc.
Steve	Krug, Co-Chair	Krug Architects, PA Climate Change Advisory Committee
Jim	Lauckner	Chester County Economic Development Council
Lou	Nairides	Facility Solutions Group
James	Robinson	DES America, LLC
Bill	Ronayne	Brandywine Valley Heating and Air Conditioning, and PA Geo
Robert	Scanlon	West Chester University
Stephanie	Smith	Department of Community Development, County of Chester
Gary	Smith	Chester County Economic Development Council
Paul	Spiegel Chair	Practical Energy Solutions, a Division of Spotts, Stevens and McCoy
Patti	VanCleave	Chester County Economic Development Council
Kevin (Kai)	Wong	Emergent Energy Solutions, LLC

- **Introductions 30 seconds each, group.**

Please send [jlauckner@ccedcpa.com](mailto:jlauckner@ccedcpa.com) any job openings you may have, and where possible, a link to your company's career page if it is listed. Those jobs that were shared with us were sent to PA CareerLink and Jim will consider if we have candidates to recommend / introduce.

**Paul Spiegel, SEI Board would like to welcome Lou Nazarides back to the Board.**

- **Urgent to Do's**

- **Everyone received application via email today with the meeting invitation. Do you have employees needing training in Energy related, IT or other tech,**

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Supervisory or Management topics? <https://smartenergypa.org/february-9-2021-cash-training-grants-now-to-upskill-your-employees/4269/>  
<https://smartenergypa.org/initiatives/training-funds/>

Skelly would like information about training funds for dislocated workers. Stephanie Smith of WDB will connect with Skelly to inform her about opportunities.

- **Links to share when promoting the Smart Energy Initiative, [SEI](#) and our [Working Groups](#) including [PA Geo](#) and [SEI Commercial, Training Grants to partially reimburse your training costs.](#)**

- **Action Team reports ( 5 – 8 minutes each)**

- Programming – Beyond the SEI Energy Briefing (Kevin (Kai) Wong)

The Energy Briefing had 64 attendees. The post event survey resulted in an overall rating of 4.38 out of 5 for the event. A quote from one attendee who was a first time attendee: “first exposure - positive impression~ great stuff today!”

We had the following feedback from those surveyed who shared what they would like to see for the next SEI Program:

- Natural Gas and other carbon based fuels - How much are they needed in the US and how much are we using annually compared to 30 - 50 years ago?
  - Geothermal - Ground Coupled Heat pumps and Deep Well Power
  - Discussion of the Biden Administration policies on Greenhouse Gas Emissions and its impacts on PA energy portfolio.
  - More detail on purchase or financing of solar installs.
  - Energy Efficiency
  - Creative financing and Funding for green initiatives
  - Battery storage for power outages.
  - Geothermal Heat pump Technology
  - Can what happened in Texas happen in PA and the NE US?
- Marketing – Next steps and budget request discussion ( Jess Nee)

Skelly Holmbeck may have some names to provide for marketing help to drive traffic to our SEI website.

Steve Krug and Paul Spiegel would like a campaign for Energy Efficiency day on October 7<sup>th</sup>. They would like to spend some marketing funds on this.

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Nathan Edmunds mentions that Instagram would be a good outlet for SEI to advertise.

- Training – Application and Training plan topics (Sherry)
  - We need to use training grant dollars for our sustainability! In introductions we'll ask are you hiring and what are you training yourself or your employees in this year. Check out our topics and the application>>  
<https://smartenergypa.org/february-9-2021-cash-training-grants-now-to-upskill-your-employees/4269/>
- Sustainability – Need for sponsors and Advisory Services (Jim)
- **Chester County and CPACE updates**
  - We want to continue to remind the group to check the <https://restorechestercounty.org/> website for updates.
  - **C-Pace Links:** The involved stakeholders ranged from members of local government to national capital providers. The meetings were well attended with a total of over 135 people. Meeting notes were taken and are available on the website at [www.PennsylvaniaCPACE.org](http://www.PennsylvaniaCPACE.org).
  - Paul Spiegel wanted to share a C-PACE Program for the Engineer's Club of Philadelphia May 11<sup>th</sup> from 4-5pm. To find out more go to <https://philadelphiacpace.org/event/engineers-club-of-philadelphia-and-c-pace/>

Gary Smith and the SEI Executive Committee continue to show support for bringing CPACE to Chester County. There continues to be dialogue between CCEDC and the County.

Pat Bokovitz said there is a cabinet meeting scheduled and he expects to come away with steps needed to continue our efforts for CPACE in the county. Pat and Steve Krug will connect to exchange information on state legislation that could fix some issues.

Paul Spiegel shares that Berks County just voted on CPACE. Regulations are posted.

Paul will have information to share from an Energy Advisory Board through Millersville University. There will be a meeting next week. A climate action plan should be done per Skelly and Paul.

Utility rates are higher in NJ and selling SRECS making energy deals easier.



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- **Opening of Nominations committee – volunteers?**  
SEI are seeking nominations. Please send your nominees to [jlauckner@ccedcpa.com](mailto:jlauckner@ccedcpa.com). We are looking for 3-5 people.
- **Hire One – Who has open jobs and what can SEI and Hire One do to help recruit and bring more people into Energy Careers** (Jim 10 minutes) Networking Event May 18<sup>th</sup> 4:30 – 6:30 virtual event <https://hire-one-business-networking-employers-may-18.eventbrite.com>
- **Rapid Response consulting for small businesses** (Jim 5 Minutes)
- **Distribution of Hire One / Refer One sign up forms** (The form has been distributed at prior meetings. Please send to [scockerham@ccedcpa.com](mailto:scockerham@ccedcpa.com) or email request for the fillable form, please).
  - The CCEDC's Hire One initiative works closely with the [PA CareerLink®](http://www.pacareerlinkchesco.org/) – [www.pacareerlinkchesco.org/](http://www.pacareerlinkchesco.org/) Chester County, a valuable resource to employers and job seekers, helping to build the workforce in our county.

Pat Bokovitz is hearing about more workforce development needs from area employers. Some industries are in more need than others and Pat is working with Jim and Hire One on a number of efforts. Please stay connected with the PA CareerLink via their website above and also check Hire One for updates on events for employer, for job seekers and news. Where possible we share events not only from the CareerLink, but from other organizations that may be of interest to you.  
<https://hireonecc.com/>

**Restore Chester County. Keep up to date by visiting <https://restorechestercounty.org/>**

The Chester County Commissioners have brought together business, economic, education and government leaders to form the core team of the COVID-19 Business Task Force. The team is focusing on best practices for restoring Chester County's quality of place. Working with state and local health departments, businesses, municipalities, schools, non-profits, places of worship and residents, they have created Restore Chester County as a toolkit to assist in the reopening process and beyond. Find out about COVID vaccine availability and other initiatives that the County is working on.

**A GETT update from Patti VanCleave, VP Workforce Development A GETT and WSCM update from Tracy .... , and her new title STEM Innovations**

Hi all-

### **STEM Innovation**

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- a. The GETT 20th Anniversary Video Series launched in November 2020 and continues through May 2021 with weekly videos and livestream events. **The videos have surpassed 2,600 views to date and have gone international!**
  - i. In March, we launched these videos: West Chester University (Types of Light), YMWIC (STEM Experiments), Jansen (Build a Molecule) and a Livestream events with Vanguard featuring the Coding a Video Game and QVC featuring How to Spot a Phishing Scam.
  - ii. Closing Ceremony is scheduled for May 23.
- b. What’s So Cool About Manufacturing Video Contest online voting is April 21-23 with the virtual Award Ceremony scheduled for May 5. VOTE here:  
<http://www.whatssocool.org/contests/chester-delaware/>
- c. CCEDC’s STEM Innovation was awarded a \$489,400 PAsmart Advancing Grant to expand access to computer science and STEM education for students in the Coatesville and Oxford Area School Districts. STEM Innovation will launch the First Generation STEM Academy (FGSA) to provide early exposure to CS/STEM education for English learners and/or underrepresented students who are among the first in their family to explore STEM careers.

**Patti VanCleave asks this board to please consider doing lessons for youth. Contact Patti with your ideas at [pvanceave@ccedcpa.com](mailto:pvanceave@ccedcpa.com)**

Please help us continue the great engagement by encouraging registration at the [www.GETTPA.org](http://www.GETTPA.org) website with your family, friends, and professional networks.

CCEDC Calendar	
April 21-23	MACC/DC What’s So Cool About Manufacturing? On-Line Voting
April 21	HCC Spring Forum
April 22	CCEDC Board Meeting
April 23	National Volunteer Week Activity – Lundale Farms
April 27	Junior Achievement INSPIRE Virtual Career Fair
April 28	i2n Open Coaching
May 3	CCEDC Golf Classic – French Creek Golf Club
May 5	MACC/DC What’s So Cool About Manufacturing? Virtual Awards Ceremony
May 6	ITAG Partnership Meeting
May 12	CCEDC External Marketing Committee Meeting
May 12	i2n Executive Committee Meeting
May 13	CCEDC Executive Committee Meeting
May 13	GETT 20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Series Livestream – Sikorsky
May 18	Hire One Networking Event
May 19	DEI Committee Meeting
May 20	i2n Board Meeting

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May 23	GETT Video Series Closing Ceremony
May 25	Business Advisory Committee Meeting
May 26	Redevelopment Committee Meeting
May 27	CCEDC Board Meeting
June 9	i2n Executive Committee Meeting
June 10	CCEDC Executive Committee Meeting
June 10	ITAG Executive Committee Call
June 16	HCC Board Meeting
June 16	DEI Committee Meeting
June 23	i2n Open Coaching
June 24	CCEDC Board Meeting
July 8	CCEDC Executive Committee Meeting
July 14	CCEDC External Marketing Committee Meeting
July 15	i2n Board Meeting
July 21	DEI Committee Meeting
July 22	CCEDC Board Meeting
September 29	CCEDC Business Achievement Awards Dinner – Phoenixville Foundry

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Keep checking the following organizations as they update their Training Schedules.

- **AEE List of Courses:** <https://www.aeeprograms.com/collections/live-seminar>
- **EnergyScore Courses:** <https://www.energyscore.com/bpiLocations.php>
- **BONE Energy Courses:** <http://www.boneenergy.com/calendar/default.html>
- **PA Petroleum Courses:** <https://www.papetroleum.org/education-schedule/>
- **Green Build United education:** <https://greenbuildingunited.org/>

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