



IAWP MINI NEWS

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ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS HELD ON APRIL 26, 2018

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INSERTS – Articles regarding the various speakers at the International Educational Conference

By Suzanne Guibert

On April 26, 2018 the Chapter was given a guided tour of the Thomas Edison Center at Menlo Park in Edison, New Jersey. Following the meeting, Chapter members adjourned to the Metuchen Inn for lunch and the Annual Meeting.

During the meeting, a discussion was held on the future of the Chapter and plans the Executive Board was going to develop for the 2018-9 administrative year. See an article on page 2 for more information. After conclusion of the business meeting, the new officers for 2018-9 were elected and sworn in.

LEGISLATIVE CORNER

TAX REFORM LAW CREATED THE OPPORTUNITY ZONE PROGRAM

- Implementation of the Opportunity Zone program provides a vehicle for private capital investment in “distressed areas.”
- The Tax Reform Law created the Opportunity Zone program to let investors who roll capital gains into an Opportunity Fund defer tax payments until they sell their interest in the fund or the end of 2026, whichever occurs first.
- The money must be invested in designated Opportunity Zones in distressed communities, which generally means household incomes are below the national average of \$59,000 per year and the poverty rate is typically 20 percent or higher.
- The 169 sites submitted by NJ for inclusion in the program were accepted by the federal government. *(continued on page 2)*

Mike Mrvichin Elected District I Director

Mike Mrvichin will serve as District I Director representing New Jersey, New York and the New England states on the International Executive Board. His first meeting was in Cincinnati, he has participated in telephone conferences and will meet in San Antonio, TX this fall.

DID YOU KNOW?

- There are 18,130 approved prescription drugs available in the US;
- 49% of Americans used at least one drug in the past 30 days;
- MIT researchers found that false news spreads through Twitter farther, faster, deeper and more broadly than the truth;
- A late spring report found that only 45 of the 500 big companies of the S & P stock index paid cash benefits to their workers after the new tax law was enacted;
- Tennessee has the highest sales tax – 9.5%.

HOW WE SPEND OUR NATIONAL HEALTH CARE \$

Hosp. Care – 32%;
 Physicians & clinical services – 20%;
 Prescrip Drugs – 10%;
 Gov.insurer exp – 8%;
 Nursing Care facilities – 6%;
 Research & facilities – 5%;
 Personal Care – 5%;
 Dental services – 4%;
 Med, equipment – 4%;
 Home health care – 3%
 Misc – 6%.

LEGISLATIVE CORNER

Continued from Page 1

- To develop the list, many factors were reviewed with emphasis on population change, change in median rent, and change in median household income
- The next step in the implementation process is for the Treasury Department to promulgate regulations for the establishment of Opportunity Funds, the vehicles via which Opportunity Zone investments will be made.

CHAPTER ISSUES REGARDING IAWP

Editor's Note: This is the second installment in a series of articles regarding dissolution of the NJ Chapter of IAWP.

The State Chapter Executive Board has decided to officially close out activities of the Chapter over the next 12-15 months. This decision does not come easily, but sadly it has become a necessity. Over the last 5 to 6 years, we have made numerous attempts to reach out to Departmental officials and workers in the various state and county workforce agencies, tried to get working members to take over Board activities, offered to pay for speakers at statewide educational events, etc. However, we have not been successful. We have about 50 members but 90% are retirees and the Board feels that the Association is designed to meet the professional development needs of employed workers, not retirees.

A second major aspect of the discussion is that the dues for retirees, now called Senior Workforce Professionals, have doubled and it will be \$50 for 2019. In the past, the Chapter charged retirees \$23 if the individual joined before December 31st. The Chapter then subsidized \$2 for each membership forwarded to the International. The Chapter subsidized working memberships \$10.

If you review the President's Report, you will see that we have over \$13,000 in resources and decisions have to be made regarding distribution.

To do this we need input from our members on two major topics:

1. How to handle the membership drive, and
2. How to distribute the remaining Chapter resources

Questions that need to be discussed are: Since dues for retirees have increased significantly, should we continue to subsidize dues and at what rate. If we are going to dissolve, would it be wiser to spend the money on scholarships and other activities such as paying the entire cost of one of the educational events rather than subsidizing dues?

PRESIDENTS COLUMN

By Suzanne Guibert, President

The Chapter Executive Board met on August 2, 2018 to make decisions about two primary questions - Plans for activities for the 2018-19 program year and whether or not and how to “close out” the Chapter.

During the meeting it was decided that the Chapter would carry out the following activities during the next 13 months:

- Continue with charitable activities such as our support of the annual bookbag drive for those in need;
- Continue and expand our Veterans’ program activities;
- Distribute 3 issues of the *Mini-News*;
- Hold 2 educational events;
- Continue support of the Chapter website;
- Distribute 3 issues of *The Mini-News*;
- Provide support to those attending the International Educational Conference; and
- Provide support to Mike Mrvichin who is District I Director on the International Executive Board.

Jim Boney provided the Treasurer’s Report:

State Credit Union	\$799.90
Savings Account	13.37
Ameritrade Account	
Money Market	\$724.10
Stock Value	\$12,962.93

After discussion, the Executive Board agreed that it might take 11 to 15 months to deal with all the administrative and fiscal responsibilities. In addition, it would require about \$4,000 to carry out the activities listed above.

The Board decided that a letter should be sent to all members asking them for their ideas on how to spend the Chapter’s remaining funds and the steps needed to be taken for the membership drive.

NJ TRAINING GRANTS PROGRAM

Purpose: The Training Grant Program for Online Courses is designed to provide financial assistance to workforce program professionals who wish to increase their knowledge, skills and abilities in a course(s) of study that pertains to employment and training work, or that relates to job performance and/or promotional possibilities **OR** for retirees for their personal self-improvement.

Eligibility: The grant applicant must be a current IAWP member or have applied for membership, to be eligible.

Awards: The maximum grant amount is \$100.

Examples of Internet Training Companies: www.corexcel.com, www.flexstudy.com, <http://courses.pdtrainingusa.com/>. Examples of courses include management, supervision, team building.

Application Procedures: An IAWP member may obtain a grant application from the publisher of the *MINI-NEWS* (see page 4) or from the NJ Chapter IAWP website at <http://njiawp.tripod.com>.

If you are not a member, we will help you become a member and help with the Training Application.

DEVELOPING CAREER-BASED TRAINING

A book edited by Stuart Andreason of the Federal Bank of Atlanta

Editor's Note: Below is the introduction from a book that provides a view of various ideas for investing in America's workforce. Facts: Pell Grants and federal student loans have become the dominant source of funding for workforce training and preparation; Employers spend \$170 billion on formal training and \$413 billion on informal training.

Book background: In an increasingly complex and rapidly changing global economy, Americans place a great premium on skills and education among workers. Recent work has suggested that advances in technology have fundamentally shifted the demand for labor towards workers who have significant skill. The returns to education are very high and potentially increasing, yet it is clear that the vast majority of workers will not need to reach the highest levels of education—a bachelor's degree or above—to succeed in the labor market today.

In fact, many projections suggest that about 70% of all jobs will not require this credential. But postsecondary training is ever more important, as about half of all jobs will require some education—but not a four-year college degree—beyond high. Many of these jobs will require a technical certification, license, associate's degree, or other credential earned beyond high school. In fact, many people who hold a postsecondary credential or certification will earn more than those who hold a bachelor's degree. These middle-skilled, post-secondary training required positions are likely to be some of the fastest growing positions in the labor market. These positions occur in many different industries, touching all parts of the economy. Many are service positions; many are administrative or executive support positions; many are in goods-producing positions.

Yet training for and focus on these positions can be very hard to create. A skilled technician in one city may need completely different skills than a technician in the same position in another city because of the needs of local industry. These different requirements are addressed through the development of localized training programs that are closely aligned with the needs of employers.

This book focuses on a number of the different arenas that have a greater need for technical and career-based training. At the secondary level, the book contains examples of efforts and frameworks for expanding career and technical education. One chapter discusses the potential for competency-based education rather than the traditional "credit hours" model. The book looks at examples of companies working directly with their frontline workers to improve skills. Finally, it has several examples of using some of the general principles of industry-led training programs to serve hard-to-employ populations— ex-offenders and homeless residents and new immigrants

For more information on this topic see the Heldrich Center for Workforce Development website.

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