



TECHNOLOGY WORKING GROUP MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: *September 10, 2018*

Participants: Esther Bolling, Ashvin Raj, Jeff Rowlett, Stephen Mullins
Via conference: Marketta Horton, Rob Beavers, Robyn Lee, Mary Trigiani

The GO Virginia Region One Technology Working Group meeting was held on September 10, 2018, at the Dickenson County Education and Research Center in Clintwood, Virginia.

After group introductions, Robyn Lee provided an update on the SWVA HubLink grant. The Southwest Virginia Technology Council was awarded a \$27,547.19 enhanced capacity grant, which will be used for researching the pieces to build the software platform. The council will be holding different meetings to identify what the platform needs. It is also working with the United Way to help expand upon the work they are already doing.

Marketta provided an update on the National HUB Zone Conference. Logos and the flyer have been sent to Michelle. Marketta provided an update on who will be attending.

Becki and Esther opened discussions regarding the 2019 SWVA Economic Forum and technology as this year's theme. The group decided the following should be considerations for the planning committee:

1. Involving high schools in a technology showcase. Offer some type of competition asking for high school to meet a technology project idea to present at the Forum. John Grimes with MECC is implementing Cyber Patriot in Lee County schools.
2. Provide a legislative panel that allows businesses to talk to legislature and voice their concerns, giving value to the businesses attending.
3. Add Daniel Orr to the planning committee and consider a way to do a mini-capture the flag contest at the Forum.
4. Invite tech start-ups and foundations and funders to match make.
5. Let participants have lunch time as a networking time with no speakers.

Esther led the group with facilitating new ideas discussion. The TRY SWVA pilot was discussed briefly. Esther and Marketta discussed innovation and technology and the cross connect between advanced manufacturing and technology. SVAM and GENEDGE are considering a pilot project for research and development of new products to help existing manufacturers diversify.

The next meeting date is October 15, 2018, at 2:00 PM (later changed to 10:00 AM) at New Peoples Bank in Gate City, Virginia.

The Meeting was adjourned.