



SAN ANTONIO

HOTEL & LODGING ASSOCIATION

EDUCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

San Antonio Hotel & Lodging Association

119 Heiman, Ste. 300 | 78205

Tuesday, May 14, 2019 | 9:00 a.m.

PRESIDING OFFICER: Dinesh Rao, CHAIRMAN

IN ATTENDANCE: Sherry Chaudhry, Bridget Diaz, Justin Holley, Ashli Johnson, Dinesh Rao, David Uminski, Liz Warren

STAFF: Liza Barratachea, Penny LaMaestra, Michelle Whitflow

- I. Chairman Rao called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Holley motioned for approval of the previous meeting's minutes, Diaz seconded, and the minutes were approved unanimously.
- II. Rao opened the meeting by thanking everyone who attended the last meeting at NXT LVL Youth Opportunity Center. They are doing some great work for 18-26 year olds that are in need of direction and guidance to further their education and work experience. Their counselors connect patrons with organizations like Restore Education and Development Services to get them on their feet. Barratachea stated that she has a follow up appointment with them soon to discuss how we can connect our members to those in need of employment.
- III. Rao opened discussion on how the committee and SAHLA as a whole can serve as a connector between organizations like NXT LVL that have the folks in need of jobs and educations and organizations like Restore Education that offer the services they need. Our job should not be to recreate the wheel but make sure that organizations who are already doing the work we want to accomplish get connected to those in need of their services. Chaudry stated that the best way to create a pipeline is to start with 8th graders. We need to create an educator resource page on our website to give teachers a place to view all of the ways to connect their school to the hospitality industry. It can include properties that offer shadow days, tuition reimbursement, work-study programs, as well as information on programs like H.E.A.T. and the new hospitality academy. It was also suggested that we recruit members to speak at school board meetings about the wealth of opportunity in the hospitality industry available to students.
- IV. Additionally, Rao reported that we are asking hoteliers to be on the lookout for the Occupational Employment Statistics Letter & Report. Accurate reporting on this form is critical to getting the correct SOC codes from the Department of Labor. This data is used in the production of State education and workforce development plan, and helps identify industries that employ the skills gained by enrollees in career-technical training programs. It also serves as primary inputs into occupational information systems designed for those who are exploring career opportunities or assisting others in career decision making. Finally, the data is used by workforce investment boards and economic development programs to attract businesses and it provides information on labor availability by the industry as well as average wages.
- V. Staff reported that we received 8 applications for a Pineapple Awards Scholarship and would be interviewing 4 of the applicants to receive money for their education expenses.
- VI. There being no further business, Rao adjourned the meeting at 10:14 a.m.

Approved by:

Motion

Second