Bambi Polotzola invited members and attendees to the GODA conference which will take place July 26, 2019 in Baton Rouge.

Members of the State as a Model Employer Task force and attendees of the meeting provided a brief introduction of themselves and their representing agencies.

Bambi Polotzola provided an online presentation regarding the 2019 survey and discussed the changes that were made which includes: the questions to be asked, and the format. An email will be sent to members and agency designees so that they may provide input and suggestions regarding the options in the survey for their agency. The Task Force discussed sending the email out by August 15.

Brenda Bohrer provided a handout with data on the number of LRS client employed by the state agencies. In FY19 the number was 38. In FY18 the number was 33. A discussion relative to testing exceptions for potential employees and letters of exemptions took place.

It was expressed by members and attendees that there is a need for work readiness, apprentices, work-based learning, dual-enrollment, and job shadowing opportunities for clients.

Positive feedback was provided regarding the disability modules in LEO. Some state agencies are requiring the disability modules as mandatory training for supervisors. State Civil Service will provide access to governmental entities such as local, municipal, parochial entities, upon request.

Fourteen (14) individuals have reserved spots for the Windmills Training on September 17 & 18. A total of 15 is needed to keep the cost down. Bambi Polotzola encouraged participants to consider registering if they have not attended the first training.

All of the LRS regional managers participated in a training exercise. A hiring manager is the person who makes the decision on who is hired. Human Resource is the person or department who ensures that all requirements have been met and process followed. Members discussed how to get the word out and ensure that interested parties understand the process. Constant communication between hiring managers, HR, and civil service is important.

Members discussed participating in statewide job fairs would help move the initiatives of the SAME forward. The SILC Job and Resource Fairs will take place in October 2019 Information relative to job fairs or employment opportunities will be forwarded to members of the task force.

Annisia Osborne provided a presentation on behalf of DOTD regarding the DOTD and BRCC Program for successful employment partnership. Topic covered in the PowerPoint presentation: The Recruitment plan, integration of the SAME executive order, steps of the implementation for DOTD and PSE partnership, and the benefits and success of the partnership.

There was discussion about the Annual SAME Agency Reports and Plans. It was recommended that the Report and Plan be drafted all-in-one: Things that were accomplished, and things that are in progress. All agencies must submit a plan by October 31, 2019. Agencies will share drafts of reports/plans at a meeting to be scheduled end of September or beginning of October.