



**TITLE:** WBLA Apprentice Ambassador Workgroup Monthly Meeting

**DATE:** February 12, 2026

**TIME:** 1:00-2:00 PM

**LOCATION:** [Zoom](#)

**GUESTS:** Staff: Antonio Gomez, Jalissa Jones

**RECORDED BY:** Coryn Barger

**MEMBERS:** Present: Craig Schmidt (Co-Chair), Daniel Serota, Danielle Kuglin-Seago, Jan Keresztes, Lazaro Lopez, Sheryl Morris (Co-Chair), and Taylor Black. Absent: Corey Young, John Hall, Sean Glowacz, Sheree Speakman, Stephen Lefaver, Terry Stroh, and Larry Fitzpatrick.

## MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

TIME	TOPIC / AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER
1:00	<p><b>Meeting Called to Order</b> Antonio Gomez called the meeting to order and transitioned to Ms. Sheryl Morris and Mr. Craig Schmidt for opening comments.</p> <p>Ms. Sheryl Morris welcomed the group and thanked them for attending. Additionally, both Ms. Morris and Mr. Schmidt stated that the session with Amiel Harper was very helpful.</p>	Sheryl Morris/ Craig Schmidt
1:05	<p><b>Roll Call of Members and Approval of Previous Minutes</b> A quorum was not present. The business of approving meeting minutes will be addressed during the next scheduled meeting.</p>	Antonio Gomez
1:10	<p><b>Debrief/Feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ “Tell Your Story” with Amiel Harper, The Morpheus Consultancy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ms. Morris and Mr. Black suggested sharing out a (pre-work) document before sessions to prepare attendees beforehand.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Mentorship check-in: Have any mentors met with their mentees? How have those meetings gone? Anything we could do to make the process easier? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Multiple mentors noted that they will be meeting with their ambassadors before the required quarterly check-ins.</li> <li>- The possibility of expanding apprenticeships to a younger age range was briefly discussed. Gomez indicated that liability keeps the program from including high school age participants. While the program is meant to target employers, the hope is for Ambassadors to be able to apply their skills to speak to younger audiences.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Sheryl Morris/ Craig Schmidt



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1:20	<b>The Apprentice Ambassador Podcast Feedback</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Pilot episode: Based on participation in the last two PD sessions, which Ambassador should be selected for the pilot?</li></ul>	Sheryl Morris/ Craig Schmidt/ Antonio Gomez
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Antonio Gomez provided a review of episode structure, variants, and intro/outro text as well as episode questions. Additionally, Mr. Gomez provided a review of the marketing plan as well as the proposed timeline for episode production.

Mr. Gomez opened the floor for feedback.

- Rewording the question related to family concerns was suggested to be sensitive to the fact that not every individual has a family who is involved.
- “How has each apprentice changed their current life?” “How did apprenticeship work into their current situation?”
- Wordsmith question 1: How did an apprenticeship help you feel like you stand out at your job?
- “How is/has the apprenticeship impacted your vision for the future?”
  - Possibly reframed with Question 4.
- Reframe the questions to be more direct (“Katie Couric” style)
- “In once sentence, tell us what being an ambassador means to you/how this program has impacted you.”
  - Potentially posted on social media for marketing purposes.
- Use upcoming episode as a hook to get listeners to return.
- A healthcare specific episode was suggested.

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1:50	<b>Old/New Business</b> <p>Ms. Morris highlighted the 2026 Illinois Workforce Summit for future discussion.</p>	Sheryl Morris
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1:55	<b>Public Comment</b> <p>Mr. Gomez opened the floor for public comment. There was none.</p>	Craig Schmidt
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2:00	<b>Adjournment</b> <p>The meeting adjourned at 3pm due to lack of quorum.</p>	Sheryl Morris/ Craig Schmidt
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*Quorum: 8*

*Majority of Quorum: 5*