

**Youth Workforce Investment Council
Central MA Workforce Investment Board
August 11, 2016**

Members Present: Ron Scott, Isidore Nosike, Rob McGlory, Linda Taylor; Carrick O'Brien; Michelle Ramirez; Robin Hooper; Doug Daigle; Kerry Thurlow.

Members in Process/Guests:

Staff Present: Ed Gagne, Kwesi Foster

Meeting Minutes

1. **Welcome & Introductions:** The meeting was called to order 2:35 PM and all attendees were asked to introduce themselves.
2. **Note of Potential Conflicts of Interest & Confirmation of Quorum:** It was announced that a quorum was present and no conflicts were noted at this time.
3. **Presentation:** Doug Daigle & Kerry Thurlow, Training Resources of America
4. **Presentation:** Linda Taylor & Michelle Ramirez, Worcester Community Action Council
5. **Discussion:** Ed Gagne provided an update of the FY16 Youth Plan. He reviewed the Activities, Benchmarks for Success, Strategies and Status Update in eight (8) categories. All categories were met and several exceeded the activities planned for the year. He also reviewed the FY17 Youth Plan main goal: To Prepare Youth for Career Success through Career Pathway Industry and Employability Skills Training. He outlined nine (9) goals for the year including and not limited to the Career Pathways Initiatives, Integration of the ACT Career Ready 101 and NCRC, Board Diversity, and Professional Development Workshops. E. Gagne discussed FY17 WIOA funding cuts (19-20%). Carry-in funds prevented a significant reduction in program services. A 5% reduction occurred for youth programming in Central Ma; the only region in the Commonwealth not significantly impacted by the State wide cuts. E. Gagne discussed occupational skills and career pathways that concentrate on specific disciplines as a priority in our region to ensure a path toward self-sufficiency, and highlighted the importance of continued collaboration and building robust partnership between employers, schools and community colleges. E. Gagne mentioned this year there will be financial literacy curriculum training offered to community youth programs, TBA. Training will cover goal settings, financial planning, transaction accounts, credit reports, and savings.
6. **Vote:**
 - a. **Approval of Minutes of April 11, 2016 and FY17 Plan:** The April 11, 2016 meeting minutes and FY17 Youth Plan were unanimously approved by a motion by I. Nosike and a second by R. Hooper.

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7. Updates:

- a. **WIOA Youth Update:** E. Gagne mentioned there were four (4) programs awarded funds to provide HiSET and Career Pathway training and highlighted the process of creating an advisory committee to create internships that will open and create gateways to jobs within organizations for Retail and Store Operations Management, Culinary and Weatherization, and also noted youth program changes to accommodate Pathway training needs.
- b. **Connecting Activities:** Connecting activities added Northbridge high school to the program and added 45 new work-based learning opportunities to program this year.
- c.

8. Announcements: N/A

9. Next Meeting:

- a. **October 14th – CMWIB, 340 Main Street, 4th Floor, Worcester, MA 01608.**

10. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 PM on a motion by I. Nosike and a second by R. Hooper.

*Respectfully submitted by,
Kwesi Foster*

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