

**MassHire Central Region Workforce Board
Executive Committee
December 15, 2023; 8:30 AM
Conducted via MS Teams**

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Paul Gilbody, Joshua Froimson, Robin Hooper, Libis Bueno
Staff: Jeff Turgeon

- P. Gilbody welcomed the attendees and asked if there were any conflicts of interest to note. Hearing none, the committee then voted unanimously to approve the meeting minutes from the November 17th meeting.
- P. Gilbody then asked J. Turgeon to provide the committee with Board updates. J. Turgeon updated the committee on several programs and activities Board staff are working on, including the YouthWorks year-round program that will employ approximately 160 youth this winter/spring, School to Career Connecting Activities, and the WIOA Youth programs, noting that the staff are working on the release of the next WIOA Youth Request For Proposals for programming the next two-year procurement cycle. He also highlighted the Worcester Jobs fund program – which is implementing 17 new projects funded through federal ARPA funds that have come to the City, and discussed the upcoming Board and career center re-certification efforts to happen in the early spring, noting on a related matter that the Board staff reviewing career center files had found a new state form was missing in the files and are working with the career center staff to rectify this. J. Turgeon also informed the committee about the regional workforce blueprint revisions which are underway now and should be completed in late January, and reminded attendees of the several industry pathway projects the Board is involved with and developing.
- J. Turgeon also updated the meeting attendees about the career center activities, including an all staff retreat that went very well earlier in the month that happened at the Hanover Theater, and some upcoming events including job fairs. J. Froimson asked about the status of the career center website revision and J. Turgeon noted that he isn't aware of the progress on this or if it has been completed yet.
- J. Turgeon then reviewed membership and discussed a listing of several members that have not been active in the past two years. It was decided that J. Turgeon would reach out to some of them and L. Bueno offered to contact the others. The attendees also discussed potential new candidates and identified some area employers that would be good to have represented on the board. L. Bueno again offered to contact some of these to gauge their interest. J. Turgeon will send along some talking points that he may use while contacting these members/candidates.
- J. Turgeon then discussed the January full Board meeting agenda and asked the committee to offer any thoughts about agenda items – once suggestion was to invite

the State to come discuss the refugee services and needs, along with giving a review of the draft revised blueprint. Other agenda item suggestions should be sent to J. Turgeon.

- The executive committee meeting will next meet on Friday, February 16, 2024 at 8:30am via MS Teams.
- Hearing no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by: J. Turgeon