

**Central Massachusetts Workforce Investment Board
Meeting Minutes
April 16, 2015 8:00 a.m.**

The following members/proxies were present: T. Bauer; G. Carberry; J. Froimson; P. Gilbody; L. Parady; T. Stone; D. Wallace; R. Lawless; J. Weekes; K. LaTulippe; P. Morano; R. Scott; L. Bueno; E. Spencer; J. McGravey; D. Gonzales (proxy for T. Provost); E. Bartkiewicz; K. Koller; J. Mello; D. Osborn; M. Boone

The following members were not in attendance: G. Carmark; C. Richard; M. Richman; P. Soucy; S. Irving; M. Riolo; D. Penta; R. Thomas; B. Gooding; T. Murray; M. Gaye; L. Miller; T. Connors; J. Dagilis; R. Scrivens

The following CMWIB/WCCC staff members were present: J. Turgeon; S. McGauley

Guest(s) present: K. Petkauskos; L. Baker

1. **Call to Order, Announcement of Quorum & Note of Conflict of Interest:** R. Lawless called the meeting to order at 8:06AM. A quorum was present and there were no conflicts noted at this time.

2. **Votes:**

a. **Approval of January 15, 2015 Meeting Minutes:** The January 15, 2015 Meeting Minutes were unanimously approved upon a motion by D. Wallace and a second.

b. **WIOA Youth Program Vote:** J. Turgeon reviewed the FY16 Year Round Youth Programming recommendation (please see handouts section). Last year, the CMWIB voted to we contract with five entities to do youth programming with the possibility of consideration for a second round of funding. The Youth Workforce Investment Council (YWIC) made the following recommendation to the CMWIB.

Recommendation: Renew the contracts for the additional year for The Fieldstone School, Youth Opportunities Upheld, Inc., Worcester Community Action Council, and Training Resources of America. The fifth program, South Middlesex Opportunity Council, Inc., was recommended to be awarded a small amount of funding to provide follow-up services to those participants served for their first year of programming. It was noted that SMOC and the CMWIB have mutually agreed that a second year of funding will not be awarded due to participant recruitment issues encountered during the first year.

Vote: The recommendation from the YWIC was unanimously approved upon a motion by J. McGravey and a second by K.Koller.

3. **Presentation by Work Without Limits:** K. Petkauskos presented on the Work Without Limits program. It was noted that the CMWIB, Work Without Limits, and other agencies including MassRehab will be partnering on the Disability Employment Initiative Grant and a new staff member will be hired through this grant.

Action: J. Turgeon to send the members a copy of the job description once it has been posted.

4. **Updates:**

a. **Programs & Activities:** Please see handouts section for full program updates. J. Turgeon noted that there are some changes to this year's YouthWorks program where the minimum wage has increased and this will affect how many youth we can serve through the program. In addition, the state has now mandated 125 total hours of on the job training. Locally, our model has always been right around that at 120 hours so we will be working to increase this. The state has also mandated working towards the goal of 80% of participants be new participants.

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The group discussed the idea of submitting an op-ed article to the Worcester Business Journal on the importance of the YouthWorks program in response to the plan of the Governor's plan to keep the program level funded.

Action: J. Turgeon to work with the board to develop this op-ed piece.

- b. Workforce Central/CMWIB Lease :** Staff are still waiting for an update from the City Manager's office. No new update.
 - c. State and Federal Budget Update:** Please see handouts section for full budget outline. More information to come.
 - d. Workforce Investment Act reauthorization (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act):** Staff continue to wait for the final WIOA regulations to roll out locally. It is anticipated that there are some changes at the board level that are allowed, but not mandated.
- 5. Other Business**
- a. Worcester Jobs Fund:** The City of Worcester has been working with the Worcester Community Labor Coalition on the Worcester Jobs Fund to connect local residents with local jobs. The City Manager has set aside \$100,000 each year for three years. The program has been integrated with the career center and other existing programs and will be overseen by a committee consisting of members from the Worcester Community Labor Coalition, Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce, Workforce Central Career Center, CMWIB, and Worcester Public Schools. The committee is now looking to hire a coordinator for the project.
Action: The board suggested that the committee begin tracking wages and placements through the Worcester Jobs Fund. J. Turgeon to present this idea to the committee.
Action: J. Turgeon to get the Community College Navigator involved in the Worcester Jobs Fund discussion to help leverage Pell Grants to be used for training.
 - b. YouthWorks Summer Jobs – hiring/donation campaign:** J. Turgeon reviewed a draft appeal to employers to hire a youth or donate to the YouthWorks program so we can serve additional youth. Members were asked to provide their feedback.
 - c. July Meeting Location:** Please contact TurgeonJ@worcesterma.gov if you would like to suggest an off-site location for the July CMWIB meeting.
- 6. Member Announcements:** R. Lawless congratulated R. Scott and Ace Medical Associates for having been named the Minority-Owned Small Business of the Year.
- 7. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned on a motion by D. Wallace and a second.

Respectfully submitted by,
Sean McGauley
CMWIB

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