

Worcester Jobs Fund Oversight Committee

December 13, 2017

10:00am

IBEW, 242 Mill Street, Worcester, MA 01602

Meeting Minutes

WJF Oversight Committee Attendance: David Minasian, Lauren Morano (proxy), Thomas Maloney, Frank Kartheiser, Dania Flores & Karen Pelletier.

WJF Program Director: Kelsey Lamoureux

Guest: Ronald Charette

- The meeting was called to order after a quorum was established.

Welcome and Introductions

- All attendees introduced themselves, their positions and their organizations.

Approval of November 8, 2017 Meeting Minutes:

- The meeting minutes from November 8, 2017 at 242 Mill Street were reviewed and unanimously accepted via a motion by K. Pelletier and a second by T. Maloney.

WJF Financial Update:

- K. Lamoureux presented financial updates on the Worcester Jobs Fund and Washington Square funding as well as updates on the overall FY 18 budget. K. Lamoureux announced that the Massachusetts Department of Transportation has approved \$88,000 in funding for the Worcester Building Pathways Pre-Apprenticeship Training Program in 2018.

WJF Director Report & Program Updates:

- K. Lamoureux highlighted that one of the graduates of the CDL B training has earned his CDL license. K. Lamoureux summarized recent activities including the presentation to the Economic Development Committee and activities of the CDL B and EKG & Phlebotomy participants. K. Lamoureux described the ongoing outreach and preparation activities related to SNAP outreach, Building Pathways Cycle 3 training, and the Call Center training.
- K. Lamoureux communicated that more media coverage of the Jobs Fund would greatly improve recruitment and outreach efforts. D. Flores mentioned that Worcester Roots may be able to assist in this area through their Public Relations staff. K. Pelletier noted that the Chamber of Commerce may be able to highlight the Jobs Fund on their radio show.

Discussion of Future Projects:

- K. Lamoureux detailed the Request for Proposals issued by the City of Worcester for the available Community Development Block Grant funding. K. Lamoureux noted that as a City Department,

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there is no conflict for the Central MA Workforce Investment Board to apply for this funding. R. Charette described a proposal idea that would include food assistance through the South Worcester Neighborhood Improvement Center and job training through the Central MA Workforce Investment Board/Worcester Jobs Fund. R. Charette proposed that this collaboration would promote comprehensive and collaborative case management strategies for individuals in multiple areas of the City and remove the transportation barrier for individuals who have difficulty accessing services downtown. D. Flores suggested that R. Charette attend the next Worcester Community Labor Coalition to learn more about the other resources across the City. D. Minasian made a motion to support a CDBG application that combines food assistance through SWNIC, soft skills training through the CMWIB, and job training through the Worcester Jobs Fund. The motion was seconded by F. Kartheiser and unanimously approved.

- F. Kartheiser requested R. Charette provide information about the employment placements at Table Talk Pies from a community perspective. R. Charette specified that 20 individuals from the South Worcester neighborhood are now working at the Southgate Street facility and communication with Human Resources at Table Talk Pies has allowed an ongoing partnership. R. Charette noted that the increased employment opportunities have encouraged a developer to remodel local properties that provide additional housing options for the local employees.
- T. Maloney announced that the I.B.E.W. is exploring purchasing a larger property that would have capacity for electrical, manufacturing, and hoisting training on-site. This property could also serve as a location for community services such as childcare and a walking track. K. Lamoureux mentioned that childcare starting at 5:30am is a much needed resource in the community and parents in other trades might also be interested in this service. K. Pelletier suggested that MassMEP might be able to speak with T. Maloney about his interest in creating a space for manufacturing training. D. Flores suggested that T. Maloney speak at the next Worcester Community Labor Coalition about his interests for the new space.

Adjournment:

- A motion to adjourn was made by T. Maloney, was seconded by L. Morano, and was unanimously approved.

The next monthly meeting will be held Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

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