

Worcester Jobs Fund Oversight Committee

April 10, 2019

10:00 a.m.

IBEW; 242 Mill Street, Worcester, MA 01602

Meeting Minutes

WJF Oversight Committee Attendance: Karen Pelletier, Maritza Cruz, Karen King, Jeffrey Turgeon, and James Chabot (Proxy).

WJF Staff: Kelsey Lamoureux and Theodora Twumasi-Ankrah

Guests: Peter Dunn and Cathal Brady

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

Welcome and Introductions:

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

TIE Plan Discussion with Elwood Main, LLC

- C. Brady provided information on the housing development project at 154-156 Main Street on behalf of Elwood Main, LLC. The rehabilitation of the four-story, historic building consists of an estimated \$4 million investment to create 13 market-rate residential apartments and a retail unit. C. Brady expressed interest in hiring local contractors and a local workforce to complete the project. J. Turgeon inquired about the targeted population for the housing units and C. Brady stated that the target market for one-bedroom units is varied, but desirable in the current housing market. M. Cruz emphasized the need for affordable housing in the community. P. Dunn provided an explanation on the different state and local programs available to developers including the State Investment Tax Credit and Housing Development Incentive Program.

Approval of March 13, 2019, Meeting Minutes

- The meeting minutes from March 13, 2019 at 242 Mill Street were reviewed and unanimously accepted via a motion by J. Turgeon and seconded by K. King.

WJF Financial Update:

- K. Lamoureux presented financial updates on the Worcester Jobs Fund, Washington Square, and Department of Transportation (DOT) Funding and as well as updates on the overall FY 19 Budget.
- K. King requested for clarification on the SNAP reimbursement process and K. Lamoureux explained the quarterly reimbursement process.

Medical Office Administrative Training:

- K. Lamoureux provided a description of the response from Quinsigamond Community College for the Medical Office Administrative Bid. K. Lamoureux described that the bid proposes offering 20

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participants with a 164-hour course and externship. M. Cruz expressed support for offering the two cycles and suggested targeted outreach to bilingual communities for potential candidates. A motion was made by K. Pelletier to approve two cycles of medical office administrative training and was unanimously approved.

WJF Director Report with Program Updates:

- K. Lamoureux highlighted recent events including the Opportunity Worcester Career Planning Fair and a presentation by a female CDL B graduate at City Council who spoke about her recent hiring by the Worcester DPW&P. K. Lamoureux provided details on the upcoming Worcester Building Pathways Pre-Apprenticeship Graduation and several committee members stated their commitment to attend. K. Lamoureux offered a summary of the active programs, completed programs, SNAP employment and trainings, SNAP outreach and the demographic breakdown for FY 19 for participants in the training programs.
- K. Lamoureux presented a one page summary of FY'18 Outcomes and FY'19 Current and Projected Outcomes.
- K. King shared updates on the current discussion to offer childcare options for Worcester Nightlife students.

Future Opportunities:

- K. Lamoureux provided a description of the UMass Anchor Institution Collaboration project. K. Lamoureux stated that discussions are ongoing with UMass to determine whether a project can be developed that would include collaboration with the Worcester Jobs Fund.
- J. Turgeon provided a summary of the Workforce Competitiveness Trust Fund for FY'19, which is designed to provide trainings and incumbent worker advancement programs in health care, information technology and other occupational fields. J. Turgeon shared that there are two local agencies considering applying for the grant and considering different partnership structures.

Adjourn:

- A motion to adjourn was made by K. King, was seconded by Jeffrey Turgeon and was unanimously approved.

The next monthly meeting will be held Wednesday May 8, 2019 at 10:00 am.

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