

Worcester Jobs Fund Oversight Committee

June 12, 2019

10:00 a.m.

IBEW; 242 Mill Street, Worcester, MA 01602

Meeting Minutes

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

WJF Staff: Kelsey Lamoureux and Theodora Twumasi-Ankrah.

- 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 May 8, 2019 Meeting Minutes

- The meeting minutes from of May 8, 2019 at 242 Mill Street were reviewed and unanimously accepted via a motion by K. King and seconded by M. Cruz.

TIF Project Updates

- K. Lamoureux provided a summary of the TIF project on behalf of Peter Dunn. D Minasian explained the basis for the Housing Development Incentive program. K. King requested more information on housing development initiative across the City. M. Cruz requested a presentation with maps of the City about the different incentive programs. K. Pelletier shared information about a city-wide housing study currently being conducted.

WJF Financial Update:

- K. Lamoureux presented financial updates on the Worcester Jobs Fund, Washington Square, and Department of Transportation (D.O.T.) Funding and as well as updates on the overall FY 19 Budget.
- K. Lamoureux provided updates on D.O.T. funding for future Building Pathways Pre-Apprenticeship Training program cycles. D. Minasian suggested increasing outreach and enrollment for the next cycle of Building Pathways Pre-Apprenticeship Training program due to increased construction activity in Worcester.
- K. King requested information about job search supports for participants after they have completed training. K. Lamoureux provided a summary of the different strategies utilized in the job search placement process by K. Lamoureux and T. Twumasi-Ankrah.

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Committee Chairperson Election:

- Co-Chair D. Minasian opened nominations for the Fiscal Year 2020 WJF Co-Chairs. D. Minasian made a motion to nominate K. Pelletier for reelection and J. Turgeon seconded the motion. F. Taylor made a motion to nominate I. Gonzalez-Webster for election. D. Minasian asked for additional nominations three times and had no reply, therefore he closed nominations. With two nominations for the two positions, D. Minasian recognized K. Pelletier and I. Gonzalez-Webster as co-chairs.

WJF Director Report:

- K. Lamoureux provided updates on the recent Worcester Building Pathways graduates placements. F. Taylor shared information about the application process with various building trades.
- K. Lamoureux summarized active programs, completed programs, SNAP Employment & Training, SNAP Outreach, and a demographic breakdown of FY 19 training program participants.

FY 20 Planning:

- K. Lamoureux shared ideas for the Worcester Job Fund social media marketing campaign.
- K. Lamoureux provided a summary of the Urban Agenda partnership that will provide Worcester entrepreneurs with support for their culinary start ups. K. King noted her current involvement in the project and shared insights about possible partnership.
- K. Lamoureux presented the Worcester Resource Guide and suggested copies of the guide be distributed to all participants in FY20.

July and August Meetings:

- K. Lamoureux polled committee members and determined a quorum would be available for the July and August meetings.
- K. Pelletier suggested moving the standing meeting time to another date and K. Lamoureux offered to poll the committee members to determine if another date would work for the members.

Other Items/Announcements:

- F. Taylor shared information about the Black Heritage Juneteenth Festival on June 22, 2019 at Institute Park.
- J. Turgeon requested updates on the childcare initiative for NightLife and K. Lamoureux offered to request updates.

Adjourn:

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

The next monthly meeting will be held Wednesday July 10, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

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