



**CMWIB Youth Council
Youth Employment Committee Meeting**

44 Front Street, Suite 725

June 15, 2011

3:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Jesse Edwards (City of Worcester Youth Employment Office), Rhonda Engelking (Penta Communications), Robin Hooper (TRA), Susan Gately (Blackstone Valley Education Foundation), Ron Scott (Ace Medical), Donna Connolly (Colleges of Worcester Consortium), Nancy Thibault (Easter Seals), Priscilla Holmes (Worcester Community Action Council), Miguel Lopez (Worcester Police Department/Gang Unit)

Staff: Jeff Turgeon (CMWIB), Sean McGauley (CMWIB), Robert Zukowski (CMWIB), Ed Gagne (Workforce Central), Brimar Guerrero (YOO Intern)

1. Welcome and Introductions:

- a. J. Turgeon welcomed attendees and all introduced themselves.

2. Review of April 28, 2011 Meeting Minutes:

- a. J. Turgeon asked the committee to review the minutes from the last Youth Employment Committee meeting (please refer to Handouts). No changes or additions were noted.

3. Update:

- a. YouthWorks: J. Turgeon informed the council that FY'11 funding was used last summer leaving no money for this summer. The Patrick Administration has made \$4 million available for the state of Massachusetts for YouthWorks funding- \$378,000 for our region, which is less than half of last summer's funding level. In addition, the state reevaluated their YouthWorks recipients based on new Census data and added Webster and Milford as additional recipients of YouthWorks funding. Through the efforts of the state and many Youth Council members advocating for youth, the FY'12 budget for YouthWorks may be brought forth for this summer. Furthermore, Executive Office of Public Safety (EOPS) funds of approximately \$275,000 which has been separate from YouthWorks in the past, is being released through the YouthWorks program framework (please see Handouts "Skills2Compete MA" for a budget process update). YouthWorks paired with the EOPS hopes to serve a total of roughly 400 youth with jobs for 20 hours/week for 6 weeks.
- b. **Outreach:** J. Turgeon reported that the CMWIB has been working with Blackstone Valley Chamber and sponsored a legislative breakfast. J. Turgeon hopes to continue working with them in the future to help promote JobOne and the other CMWIB initiatives. In addition, R. Engelking of Penta Communications presented a series of JobOne website mock ups for the committee's review as efforts continue to move forward.

4. **Discussion:**

- a. **Partner MOU:** J. Turgeon informed the committee that the idea behind the idea was to provide a basic standard that all partner organizations agree upon that guarantees a minimum standard, outlines partner roles, and creates responsibilities. After some discussion, the committee suggested the agreement document be revised to best capture the spirit of this alliance and the draft MOU (see Handouts "JobOne MOU") to further discuss and develop them.
Action: J. Turgeon will work with S. Gately and R. Scott to revise the partner agreement document and share the result with the committee.
- b. **Partner Recruitment:** J. Turgeon led discussion around partner recruitment. Committee members suggested organizations such as JobCorps, WIA Vendors, Mass Rehab, and other community partners that should be contacted about joining the JobOne initiative.
 - i. **Launch event:** After some discussion, the committee decided to aim for mid-September launch events for the JobOne initiative.
- c. **Policy:** J. Turgeon reported that there was a state representative who has sponsored a bill to lower the minimum wage for teens- thinking this will improve teen employment. After some discussion, the committee decided it would be worth having the state representative as a guest speaker for the next Youth Council meeting to decided if this was something the Youth Council would like to recommend that the board support.
Action: J. Turgeon will contact the state representative to invite him to the next Youth Council meeting.

5. **Announcements:**

- a. There were no announcements.

6. **Adjourn**

- a. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sean McGauley

Communications, Operation and Administrative Specialist