

**Central Massachusetts Workforce Investment Board
Youth Council Meeting Minutes
44 Front Street, Suite 300
Worcester, MA 01608
3:00 p.m.
October 6, 2011**

Members Present: Ron Scott; Susan Gately; Kevin Crowley (proxy); Jesse Edwards; Priscilla Holmes; Frank Kartheiser; Rev. Jose Encarnacion (proxy); Donna Kilgore; John Trainor; N. Thibault; Robert McGlory

Staff Present: Jeff Turgeon; Robert Zukowski; Sean McGauley

Ed Gagne; Roy Lucas

Guests: Cedric Arno

1. **Welcome:** R. Scott welcomed guests and called the meeting to order. Members went around the room and introduced themselves.
2. **Note of Potential Conflicts of Interest & Confirmation of Quorum:** No conflicts of interested were noted at this time. R. Scott announced that a quorum was present.
3. **Approval of Minutes of September 9, 2011:** Upon a motion by P. Holmes and a second, the September 9, 2011 minutes were unanimously approved.
4. **Discussion:**
 - a. **Youth Council Goals:** J. Turgeon reviewed the Youth Council Goals outline (see handouts section) noting that this was a draft of what the Youth Council will be focusing on for the year. Members were asked to review and provide feedback. J. Turgeon went over each of the goals noting that the final format of the goals will be placed into a matrix format which allows for tracking of progress. Discussion centered around the goal of “Aligning CMWIB and Youth Council resources with community resources- help establish shared communications/data systems for parents. Schools, and youth service providers”, J. Trainor shared that Worcester Public Schools (WPS) is launching a web-based product that allows parents to create a log-in to be able to share information between the school and parents. This log-in information could potentially be shared with youth service providers.

ACTION: The committee requested that CMWIB staff look at getting Bob Jennings, the staff leader behind WPS’ web-based product to come speak at the next meeting.

J. Turgeon asked that members review the goals outline and send any feedback or additional goals to TurgeonJ@worcesterma.gov.
Initial feedback included the following: N. Thibault requested that the Youth Council look into using social media such as Twitter as a method of awareness building. D. Kilgore suggested a coal of connecting the Youth Council to the community colleges and continuing education. C. Arno would like the council to

look into getting unions involved in work-readiness. The committee would also like to look at strengthening access to computers by looking at the “Home Party” model used in the Lowell system.

- b. Youth Team for US DOL Young Adult Conference:** E. Gagne informed the group that the Department of Labor is hosting a conference from Nov. 14-16th in Boston, MA (see handouts section). The conference is asking the workforce regions to pull together a team made up of representatives from education, workforce development, justice system, etc. to come together to discuss collaboration. The conference is free to attend, but team members are asked to provide their own transportation to and from the conference. All interested parties should contact Jeff at TurgeonJ@worcesterma.gov.
ACTION: S. McGauley will send out more information regarding the conference.
- c. Youth Council Name Change:** J. Turgeon reported that because there is often a misconception that that Youth Council is actually made up of youth and because the City of Worcester’s Youth Opportunities Office is launching a Youth-led Council, that the council might consider changing its name to better align with its mission.
VOTE: With a motion by J. Trainor and a second, the members unanimously voted to recommend the new name of *Youth Workforce Investment Council* to the full board.

5. Updates:

- a. Youth Resource Development Group:** S. Gately reported that the group had arranged a meeting with Ann Lisi from the Greater Worcester Community Foundation to discuss the feasibility of starting a fund. This information will be shared at the next meeting on October 13th, all are welcome to attend.
- b. Youth Employment (JobOne)Group:** F. Kartheiser was asked to talk to the committee about a \$9 million line item for next year’s YouthWorks program that was pulled from the State FY12 Supplemental budget. J. Turgeon noted that staff cannot lobby for funding, but noted that council members are free to do so if they wish. F. Kartheiser volunteered to keep the committee updated on the progress.
- c. Connecting Activities Program:** S. Gately gave a brief overview of the Connecting Activities program which has representatives from the Blackstone Valley and Worcester Tech. All questions should be directed to S. Gately.
- d. WIA Programs:** E. Gagne reported that the WIA programs met all of their goals as of the 4th quarter stats. E. Gagne has also requested that WIA vendors begin to record testimonials from youth who have gone on to post-secondary education as a result of being in a WIA program.
- e. Youth Council Member Program Updates:**
P. Holmes announced that the WCAC is using the remaining \$28,000 from the EOPSS grant to design a program where youth are placed in a subsidized position for 2 weeks and then the employers are asked to hire the youth.
S. Gately reported that the Education Foundation is starting a Manufacturing Academy, an afterschool program designed to increase youth awareness of the manufacturing sector and to connect manufacturing firms with high school students for internships and possible job opportunities.

6. Meeting Schedule:

- a. Thursday, November 3rd**
- b. Thursday, December 1st**

7. Other Announcements

J. Turgeon announced that K. Hamilton from the Boston PIC and speaker at the last meeting is continuing with her Youth Transitional Task Force. Anyone interested in attending these meeting should contact Jeff at TurgeonJ@worcesterma.gov.

8. Adjourn: Upon a motion and a second, the meeting was adjourned at 4:18PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Sean McGauley
Communications and Operations Specialist
CMWIB