

**CMWIB Youth Council
Youth Employment Committee Meeting**

44 Front Street, Suite 725

January 10, 2012

3:30 p.m.

Minutes

Attendees: Jesse Edwards; Rhonda Engelking; Priscilla Holmes; Robin Hooper; Frank Kartheiser; Nancy Thibault; Susan Gately; Ron Scott; Joe Corazzini; Robert McGlory

Staff: Jeff Turgeon; Robert Zukowski; Sean McGauley; Roy Lucas

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** J. Turgeon announced a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 3:41PM.
2. **YouthWorks:**
 1. **Year-Round Update:** J. Edwards reported that Worcester Community Action Council (WCAC) will be starting the YouthWorks Year-Round programming officially on Monday, February 6th. Youth aged 17-21 will begin pre-employment training and work experience.
 2. **Summer Advocacy Update:** F. Kartheiser noted that there was currently no funding set aside for the coming summer for YouthWorks, the funding was pulled out the day before the supplemental. On February 13th from 6:30-8:00PM a group is gathering with 5 local legislators to celebrate youth jobs and to make it a top priority for the ways and means committee. All members are encouraged to attend this event. Location to be announced.
Action: J. Turgeon to send out more information to the committee as it becomes available.
 3. **Planning for YouthWorks Program:** J. Edwards is setting up meeting to plan the summer YouthWorks programming. The group is planning to move forward assuming that there will be funding so that a plan will be in place if funding is made available. If interested in participating in this planning group, please contact J. Edwards at EdwardsJ@worcesterma.gov.
3. **MOU Partner Update:** J. Turgeon informed the group that there are a number of JobOne partners who have completed and signed the partner MOU. Staff is reaching out to all of the Connecting Activities schools in the region. This strategy will allow JobOne partners to reach all of the region.
4. **Outreach Update:**
 1. **Chamber:** J. Turgeon has met with the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and gave an overview of the JobOne initiative. The Chamber has agreed to help with the initiative outreach by sending materials to their membership. J. Turgeon is now working to get the word out to the other chambers within Central MA.
 2. **Videos:** The staff continues to work with the City's Government Cable Access team to produce a series of short public service announcements. The first of the series was shown to the committee. Feedback was gathered and will be considered as staff work on finalizing the video. All members interested in



participating in the finalization of this video, and the creation of the other videos should contact J. Turgeon at TurgeonJ@worcesterma.gov.

3. **United Way:** J. Turgeon is working with J. Corazzini and other staff from United Way to talk about partnering and how JobOne might be able to utilize the United Way's network of contacts.
4. **Website Survey Questionnaire** After a partner has returned a signed copy of the partner MOU, they are asked to complete an information survey. This information will be used on the JobOne website to match employer partners with the appropriate programs. For a link to the survey, please contact S. McGauley at McGauleyS@worcesterma.gov.

5. Discussion:

1. **Spring Employer Awards Event:** The committee had identified a goal of creating an Employer Awards Event to highlight businesses in the area who were committed to hiring youth. The committee discussed what this event might look like and how to handle the awards.
Action: J. Turgeon and S. McGauley will create a draft employer awards nomination form and send out to the full committee for their feedback. The committee also discussed creating a JobOne sticker that participating businesses could hang in their window.
Action: S. McGauley to email R. Engelking regarding some prices of design and printing of stickers and to develop some ideas for a tagline.
2. **Policy Ideas:** J. Turgeon asked committee members to identify policy ideas that members would like to see the committee advocate for. The committee then discussed CORI reform and employer drug testing.

6. Partner Announcements & Sharing of Best Practices

7. Other Business

1. **CEC Grant:** The state has issued two new RFPs. One is for a \$15,000 employer engagement grant. J. Turgeon is working to partner with North Central Workforce Investment Board to apply for the funding using the JobOne effort. The other is for a \$20,000 grant to develop a youth employment agency with an emphasis on non-supplemented youth employment. The CMWIB will be hosting an informational webinar on Friday, January 13th. All are welcome to attend.

8. **Adjourn:** There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:40PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Sean McGauley
CMWIB
Communications and Operations Specialist