

Worcester Jobs Fund Oversight Committee

Apr. 13, 2016

10:00am

IBEW; 242 Mill Street, Worcester, MA

Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Leonard Cooper, Frank Kartheiser, Leo Miller, David Minasian, Karen Pelletier, Jeffrey Turgeon, Janice Weekes, Dania Flores, & John McGovern (proxy).

Guests: Lauren Ross, Kelsey Lamoureux, & Paul Morano.

- Co-chair Cooper called the meeting to order at 10:09am after a quorum was established.

Approval of March 9th Meeting Minutes:

- The meeting minutes from March 9th at 340 Main St. were reviewed and unanimously accepted via a motion by F. Kartheiser and a second by J. Turgeon.

City Economic Development Update & Discussion of TIF Project Review:

- P. Morano informed the committee that the City Economic Development Update does not need to be a standing item on the agenda. The change was unanimously accepted via a motion by F. Kartheiser and a second by J. Turgeon.
- P. Morano gave an overview of the new TIF policy. D. Flores asked for clarification regarding the monitoring and penalty process for companies who do not follow the TIF policy. L. Cooper expressed concern over the minimum requirements for minority employees being too low. P. Morano stated that the state handles monitoring and penalties on a case by case basis and that the percentages are based on the City's numbers.

WJF Financial Report:

- J. Turgeon discussed the financial report emphasizing funding that has been spent and is projected to be spent on salaries for FY 16. J. Turgeon confirmed \$57,000 of the City funds can be spent after the end of FY 2016.
- The Financial Report was unanimously accepted via a motion by L. Miller and a second by D. Flores.

WJF Director:

- K. Lamoureux gave an overview of her current and planned activities on the Building Pathways, CDL Class A, Diesel Technician, and Community Health Worker pre-apprenticeship programs. K. Lamoureux offered to start a branding initiative and bring logo and letterhead samples to the next meeting for OC review.

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Youth Employment Research Project:

- F. Kartheiser gave notice that he needed to leave early and that he wanted to discuss the Youth Employment Research project before he left. The line item was moved forward unanimously via a motion by L. Miller and a second by J. Weekes.
- F. Kartheiser explained the proposed research project and the need for this type of project. L. Miller motioned to facilitate discussion. D. Flores communicated apprehension about professors conducting a research project with residents. L. Cooper expressed concern that the study would not produce original results. K. Pelletier advised the OC that community members were the ones who reached out to Clark University for their support on the project and that Clark University is willing to cover a large portion of the costs. J. McGovern stated that he sees many youth coming to Worcester in need of employment and would be interested in the results of this study.
- L. Cooper motioned to move the question. J. Turgeon motioned to add an amendment for a member of the OC to lead oversight of the study. F. Kartheiser accepted this as a friendly amendment. L. Cooper called for a vote and the motion passed. J. Turgeon, K. Pelletier, F. Kartheiser, L. Miller, and J. McGovern voted in favor of the motion, L. Cooper opposed, D. Flores abstained, and J. Weeks was not present at the time of the vote.

11:38: F. Kartheiser left the meeting. A quorum was still present.

Old Business, Program Updates and Discussion:

- L. Miller motioned to pass a question through the chair: "Does J. Turgeon have bias because he is focused on the whole Central MA region as opposed to only focusing on Worcester?" J. Turgeon stated he does not see a bias because the programs utilizing state funding can enroll participants from the region. L. Miller requested that as K. Lamoureux transitions into her new position, she take on more of a leadership role within the OC meetings and the WJF in general. J. Turgeon agreed to provide support to K. Lamoureux through the transition process.
- J. Turgeon proposed the updated WJF Operating Principles. D. Flores expressed concern about the WJF OC being an advisory organization. The Operating Principles were unanimously accepted via a motion by J. Turgeon motioned and a second by K. Pelletier.

11:47: K. Pelletier left the meeting and a quorum was still present.

New Business:

- J. Turgeon motioned for up to \$18,000 to be approved for the CDL Class B Training. The funding allocation was unanimously accepted via a motion by D. Flores and a second by F. Kartheiser.

Adjournment:

- D. Flores made a motion to adjourn, the motion was seconded by J. Turgeon and was unanimously approved.

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