

**Youth Workforce Investment Council
Central MA Workforce Investment Board
October 13, 2016**

Members Present: Ron Scott, Robin Hooper, Isidore Nosike, Kerry Thurlow (proxy for Doug Daigle), Judy Freedman Fask, Carrick O'Brien (proxy for Charla Hixson), David Trendi (proxy for Collen Lanza), Toni Poti, Kate Pesa (proxy for Kristen Mayotte), Kelly Conlin

Guests: Dianne Crossley, Jim Keedy, Mike Cole, Ana McWade, Laura Farnsworth, Kevin Maranja

Staff Present: Ed Gagne

Meeting Minutes

1. **Welcome & Introductions:** The meeting was called to order 2:30 PM and all attendees were asked to introduce themselves.
2. **Note of Potential Conflicts of Interest & Confirmation of Quorum:** It was announced that a quorum was present and no conflicts were noted at this time.
3. **Vote:**
Approval of Minutes: The August 11, 2016 meeting minutes were unanimously approved by a motion from Toni Poti and a second from Robin Hooper.
4. **Presentation:** Dianne Crossley, Autism Resources of America, Inc. (www.autismresourcecentral.org)
Dianne reviewed the expanded eligibility criteria to qualified adults 18+ and discussed new activities at the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) including and not limited to the Center's monthly activities for Teens and Young Adults.
5. **Presentation:** Kate Pesa, Youth Opportunities Upheld, Inc. (<http://www.youinc.org/services/educational/efe.html>)
Kate discussed the two "new" career pathways at YOU Inc. (Culinary Arts and Weatherization Installation). Training is available to out-of-school youth with or without a HS Diploma or equivalent. Transportation is provided.
6. **Discussion:** E. Gagne discussed highlighted all WIOA programs and free career pathways training opportunities for youth: CNA/Home Health Aide (<http://www.thefieldstoneschool.com/web/>), Weatherization Installation, Sales Management/Retail Customer Service (<http://tra-inc.org/>), and Culinary Arts. Each program had the opportunity to speak about their training program. E. Gagne also highlighted the Disability Navigator grant and training opportunities for interested applicants at the Career Center. E. Gagne talked about the Massachusetts Association of Insurance Agents' Youth Agents Committee and is collaborating with them about way to bring insurance training, job awareness, and support for this industry in Central MA. He

The City of Worcester does not discriminate on the basis of disability, The CMWIB will provide auxiliary aids and service, written materials in alternative formats, and reasonable modifications in policies and procedures to persons with disabilities upon advance request. Please contact CMWIB at 508-799-1590 or the ADA Coordinator at disabilities@worcesterma.gov.

also mentioned an event by this organization on October 27th from 3:00 – 6:00 in Boston, MA.

7. Updates:

- a. **WIOA Youth Update:** E. Gagne talked about the current performance of programs and provided a brief overview of FY16 Year End Performance in various categories.
- b. **YouthWorks:** C. O'Brien mentioned the year round program will serve 28 students over 8 weeks. There are a few openings remaining. T. Poti announced the YouthWorks Candidates Forum will be held on October 26, 2016 at 4:00 pm.
- c. **Connecting Activities:** The grant was reduced to \$95k between the Blackstone Valley Education Foundation and the Worcester Public Schools. It serves approximately 1,200 youth at 22 affiliated high schools.

8. Announcements: N/A

9. Next Meeting:

- a. **December 8th – CMWIB, 340 Main Street, 4th Floor, Worcester, MA 01608.**

10. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 3:55 PM.

*Respectfully submitted by,
Ed Gagne*

The City of Worcester does not discriminate on the basis of disability, The CMWIB will provide auxiliary aids and service, written materials in alternative formats, and reasonable modifications in policies and procedures to persons with disabilities upon advance request. Please contact CMWIB at 508-799-1590 or the ADA Coordinator at disabilities@worcesterma.gov.