

Youth Council
Central MA Workforce Investment Board
April 12, 2018
2:30 pm
340 Main Street, 4th Floor, Worcester, MA

Members Present: Jennifer Brunelle (proxy for John McGovern), Doug Daigle, Deb Feraco, Carolyn Gordon, Robin Hooper, Frank Kartheiser, Howard Lucas, Chris Knolland (proxy for Robert McGlory), Collen Lanza, Roy Lucas (proxy for Janice Weekes), Kristin Mayotte, Isidore Nosike, Carrick O'Brien.

Guests: Lauren Morano, Walid Bukri, Maggie Butrym, Michelle Ramirez, Linda Taylor

Staff Present: Jeff Turgeon, Ed Gagne

Meeting Minutes

1. **Welcome & Introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 2:35 p.m. All attendees were asked to introduce themselves.
2. **Note of Potential Conflicts of Interest & Confirmation of Quorum:** Four attendees noted a conflict of interest: Doug Daigle, Kristin Mayotte, Isidore Nosike, and Carrick O'Brien.

It was announced that a quorum was present.

3. **Vote:**
Approval of Minutes: The December 14, 2017 meeting minutes were unanimously approved by a motion from Carolyn Gordon and a second by Kristin Mayotte.
4. **Presentation:** Walid Bukri and Maggie Butrym, WIOA Worcester Community Action Council Graduates.

Maggie and Walid talked about their success after completing training at WCAC. Each highlighted their future plans after they complete their degrees at Quinsigamond Community College.

5. **Presentation:** Lauren Morano, *Program Manager*, CMWIB. Lauren discussed the Pharmacy Technician Training pre-apprenticeship program. The training prepares interested candidates for the national Pharmacy Technician Certification (CPhT). Training will begin in May. Approximately five trainings will occur in Worcester, North Central, and Blackstone. A recommendation occurred to include Southbridge as a viable location. Each training is six weeks in duration. To learn more contact Lauren at 508-373-7607.

6. **Discussion:**

WIOA FY19 Programming: E. Gagne provided an introduction to WIOA programming and the CMWIB FY19 planned program highlights that includes increases in 6 categories. WIOA Youth Elements, and Youth Performance

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Indicators were reviewed. Youth Recommendations were presented that prioritize an integrated delivery system that supports qualitative academic and career pathway certificate training programs with attainment of a state recognized credential and outcomes to the following entities: The Fieldstone School, Youth Opportunities Upheld, Worcester Community Action Council, and Training Resources of America.

Vote: Upon a motion by Carolyn Gordon and a second by Frank Kartheiser, the group unanimously voted to approve the recommendations from the FY19 Youth Proposal Review Team.

7. Updates:

- a. **WIOA Youth Update:** E. Gagne reviewed the Department of Career Services CMWIB's FY18 Quarter Report Ending December 31, 2017 for the Youth Entered Employment/Education Rate for the 2nd (83% of local goal) and 4th quarters (84% of local goal), the Youth Credential Attainment Rate (109% of local goal), and the Youth Measureable Skills Attainment Rate (76 students attained skills gains – the highest number in the Commonwealth).
- b. **YouthWorks (YW):** J. Turgeon mentioned YouthWorks will serve approximately 265 youth this summer in Worcester, Webster, and Southbridge. Twenty percent of the participants must have one of the following barriers: foster care, court involved, or homeless youth. Worcester Community Action Council and the Center of Hope will serve as the day to day program leads.
- c. **Connecting Activities:** E. Gagne mentioned the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education provides funding for Connecting Activities to provide career readiness activities that include internships, p/t employment, job shadowing, job fairs in partnership with Worcester Public Schools and the Blackstone Valley Education Foundation. This year the grant will increase the number of high school students who take part in paid STEM internships.

8. Announcements:

Frank Kartheiser discussed the 11.7 million dollar YouthWorks grant for summer employment. The FY19 budget is in place now. To support the current bill contact your local representative. Discussion occurred around the minimum wage increase, and the impact on the number of youth served in the future.

Next Meeting:

- a. **June 14th – CMWIB, 340 Main Street, 4th Floor, Worcester, MA 01608.**

9. **Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned upon a motion, seconded, and approved unanimously at 4:15 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by,
Ed Gagne*

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