

MSW Workforce Board Executive Committee Meeting, November 14, 2023

Minutes

Members on Zoom: Lisa Kubiak, Chair, Bob Bower, Mark Fegley, Rev. Lloyd

Members absent: Brandy DeBarge, Andy Vizulis

Others present: MassHire Metro South/West Workforce Board staff present: Henry Bryson, Greg Bunn, Louise Meyer; Cindy Cedrone, Administrative Consultant

Welcome and Approval of August 14, 2023 Minutes

Lisa Kubiak welcomed everyone and asked for approval of the August 14, 2023 minutes. Mark Fegley made a motion to approve. Rev. Lloyd seconded. All members indicated approval. Motion passed.

Migrant Shelter Updates

Greg Bunn reported that the board is working with Marlborough and Dedham on the state-run Migrant Shelter Pilot Program. He said the Marlborough shelter has multiple laptops for their Language Learning Lab and that the career center hosted an “abbreviated career center seminar”, with a career center staff person who is able to speak limited Haitian Creole, but only 10 people attended. He noted the continued challenge of not receiving information regarding the migrants’ skills and language barriers, and lack of work authorizations. Greg said he sees the role of career center as facilitating the labor exchange piece once individuals are granted their work authorization.

Youth Connections Launch/Website Updates

Greg reported that the new Youth Connections soft launch was underway: SOPs, new logo, a successful meeting with Framingham School Committee. A formal launch is planned for January or February 2024 at the Board office in Marlborough. The MetroWest Chamber of Commerce has offered to coordinate a formal ribbon cutting event. A press release will also be issued.

He noted the current website will be split into three different websites: 1. MassHire MSW Career Center, 2. MSW Workforce Board, 3. MSW Youth Connections-focusing on students, educators, and parents.

Board Level Business Services Position

Greg reported that there were a few vacant positions in the Business Services Unit, one of them is Business Services Manager. Greg asked for feedback on moving the position to the board level as Director of Employer Partnerships. The members agreed and suggested there be high-level decision making attached to the position.

Greg noted that the contract between Northeast Advanced Manufacturing Consortium (NAMC) was being postponed due to lack of staff at this time.

Lisa asked for a motion to adjourn. Rev. Lloyd made a motion. Mark seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.