

MassHire Metro South/West Workforce WIOA Board Meeting
Minutes October 19, 2023,

Members present: Lisa Kubiak, Chair, Bob Bower, Ernie Houle, Shannon Laingen, Rev. Lloyd , Kevin O'Connor,

Members on Zoom: Rosemary Alexander, John Bogdan, Brandy DeBarge, Mark Fegley, Charles Gagnon, Bob Ganong, Walter Gardner, Sue Medeiros, Tom O'Rourke, Jason Palitsch, Dan Rediger, David Podell, Chris Vericker

Members absent:, Patrick Davis, , Jennifer Jackson, Kim Ingalls, Nick Pavone, Mary Lou Regan

Other: General Manger Norwood: Tony Mazzucco; MassHire Metro South/West Workforce Board staff: Henry, Bryson, Greg Bunn, Cindy Cedrone, Zoie Jaklitsch, Tricia Lucier, Sean Marshall, Louise Meyer, Carol Wolf

Review of Agenda, Welcome, Approval of June 27, 2023 Minutes

Greg Bunn welcomed everyone and turned the meeting over to the chair, Lisa Kubiak. Lisa asked for a motion to approve the June 27, 2023 minutes. Bob Bower made a motion, Brandy DeBarge seconded. Motion passed.

FY24 MSW Annual Plan: Performance Goals

Greg presented slide deck, which include FY24 strategic goals, comparison of FY24/FY23 funding sources, pie charts for the FY24 Annual Plan Budget; migrant shelter pilot update with the career center roles, opportunities and challenges; program updates for Behavioral Health Grant, Trade and Construction month, VR Project, Apprentice Training Project and Youth Connections re-brand.

FY24 MSW Annual Plan: Integrated Budget

Henry Bryson presented pie charts that showed the FY24 funding sources, funding allocations per program/entity, and funding by cost category noting all were stable. Carol said the budget was up 1% overall due to some funding sources increasing and others decreasing. She noted carry-in funds are higher. Greg noted that Henry, Carol Wolf and Louise were instrumental in finalizing the integrated budget. Lisa asked for a motion to approve the FY24 Annual Plan. Ernie Houle made a motion to approve; Rev. Lloyd seconded. Motion passed.

Migrant Shelter Pilot Updates

Greg said there was a state-run Migrant Shelter Pilot Program that focused on 14 shelters, two of which are in Marlborough and Dedham. At this point, Board and Career Center staff have worked with Marlborough shelter coordinators to help set up a PC lab in the hotel shelter and access MWRTA resources. The goal is to develop a process that can be replicated in the Dedham shelter. There are ongoing challenges such as lack of information regarding migrants skills, language barriers, lack of resources and capacity to scale, and lack of coordination from the state.

Program/Grant Updates

Greg noted that a Behavioral Health Grant had been received from Boston Children's Hospital to support work around Teen Mental Health First Aid training in schools, and in November the Board would receive notification in regard to its submission of another three-year BH grant from Commonwealth Corporation. Part of the grant involves collaboration with an organization called *Accelerate the Future* and Framingham State to move incumbent workers with bachelor's degrees towards master's degrees.

Greg noted that the Trade and Construction expo is set for April 3rd 2024, and the Board would be expanding to MSW Trade and Construction Month, including additional events. He reported that the youth programs continue to collaborate, and he presented a logo for the Board's new youth services brand called "Youth Connections" that was done by a Waltham High School student for the Trade Event last April. Zoie Jaklitsch said there have been more in-person attendance at the career center and at the seminars. She said there was an IT hiring event in Norwood, where 120 people registered and 72 actually attended. Greg noted that Virtual Reality Training initiative through a company

called Transfr continues to roll out through some of our partner schools and at the Waltham Public Library, and a that the board is hosting a state-wide VR user group the office on November 1.

Lisa asked for a motion to adjourn. Rev. Lloyd made a motion; Ernie Houle seconded. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.