

Unofficial Minutes

MassHire Metro South/West Workforce Board Meeting

Minutes from June 27, 2019

Members present: Lisa Kubiak, Chair, Rosemary Alexander, Ed Bartley, John Bogdan Bob Bower, Charles Gagnon, Jennifer Jackson, Shannon Laingen, Rev. J. Anthony Lloyd, Jeremy Thompson proxy for Paul Matthews, Kevin O'Connor, Nick Pavone, David Podell

Conference call: Adam Garber

Members absent: Patrick Davis, Mark Fegley, MaryLou Regan, Suzana Stahlman, Seth Worby

Guest: Joe Thidodeau, Office of Congresswoman Lori Trahan

Other: MassHire Metro South/West Workforce Board staff: Greg Bunn, Henry Bryson, Cindy Cedrone, Meghan Burke; MassHire Metro South/West Career Center: Angie Grant, Antoine Jones, Louise Meyer, Zoie Jaklitsch; Metro South/West Employment and Training Administration, Inc.: Tricia Lucier, Carol Wolf

Review of Agenda, Introductions, Votes

Lisa Kubiak reviewed the agenda, welcomed all and introductions were made. She asked for a motion for April 11, 2019 minutes to be approved. Bob Bower made a motion; Rev. Lloyd seconded. Motion passed.

Lisa asked for a motion to elect the slate of officers for a one-year term, expiring in 2020: Lisa Kubiak, Chair, Ed Bartley, Treasurer, Greg Bunn, Clerk. Rev. Lloyd made a motion, John Bogdan seconded. Motion passed.

It was determined that a vote was not needed for the continuation of MSWETA as Interim Operator because a vote was passed at the April 11 meeting to call for quarterly status updates.

Financial Reports

Ed Bartley presented the PSW and MSW ETA financials through May noting all was on track.

FY2020 Allocations

Carol Wolf noted the unemployment rate was low in the Metro South/West area so FY20 allocations were lower and not finalized yet. She stated the FY20 budget would be available at the board meeting in September.

Career Center Updates

Louise Meyer reported that the career center staff has been pulling together. From feedback at the December All Staff Meeting, there has been re-assignments and cross-training, and the Business Services team has been collaborating. Louise said training contracts have been increasing. She said all have been working with the required Partners to get more people to use the career center. Louise also wants to become more involved with the chambers and associations in the region to bring in more employer engagement.

Youth Program Updates

Meghan Burke reported that the Connecting Activities model was changing to the four partner high schools Framingham, Norwood, Marlborough, and Waltham, (in partnership with Waltham Partnership for Youth) being contracted directly. The schools will be held accountable for the numbers. She said YouthWorks Summer is starting up. These are soft-skills training internships in Framingham. She reported a proposal for YouthWorks Year-Round, due in July, is being worked on. A Teacher Externships program from DESE has been extended to five teachers, from three. The STEM Council grant to build relationships with employers will be starting soon.

Tricia Lucier reported that Career Connections is a resource for at-risk youth, ages 17-24 years. It is a multi-year program for economically disadvantaged youth. They are often referred, and there is a heavy assessment process and heavy case management. Bob Bower suggested the youth take a tour of the career center to be aware of the services.

Board Activity Planned for FY20

Greg talked about more employer engagement to expand support services. There will be Labor Market Information with focus groups, meeting quarterly. Henry reported that he and Greg had done career center monitoring and although there was room for improvement, overall there were many positive outcomes.

Guest

Joseph Thibodeau from Congresswoman Lori Trahan's office said the Congresswoman serves on the House Education & Labor Committee and the House Armed Services Committee. A personal interest of hers is workforce development and she would be happy to offer letters of support. To get in contact with Joe, feel free to call (978) 459-0101 or email Joe.Thibodeau@mail.house.gov

Adjourn

Lisa asked for a motion to adjourn. Kevin O'Connor made the motion. John Bogdan seconded. Meeting was adjourned.