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A Michigan Works! Agency

MEETING:	DESC Corporate Board Meeting	DATE:	June 28, 2022
ATTENDEES:	DESC Corporate Board Members: Alice Thompson, Nicole Sherard-Freeman, Chris Uhl, Lena Barkley, Ric Preuss, Dannis Mitchell, Maria Woodruff-Wright DESC Staff: Terri Weems, Sara Azu, Chanelle Manus, Elizabeth Hennessey, Dana Williams, Robert Shimkoski, Carmen Bender, David Jackson, Greg Anderson, Madelyn Bernard-Diab	LOCATION:	DESC Corporate Offices
		CALLED TO ORDER:	10:04 am
ABSENT:	Excused: Cal Sharp, Chris Phillips, Mike Aaron, Toney Stewart Unexcused: None	ADJOURNED:	10:49 am
PUBLIC ATTENDEES:	John Allen, Hernando Flowers		
FACILITATOR:	Cal Sharp, Board Chair	DATE MINUTES APPROVED/ADOPTED:	08/23/2022

ITEM	DISCUSSION	OUTCOME/ACTION ITEM(S)
I. Welcome & Introductions	Alice Thompson, Board Secretary, called the meeting to order.	
II. Agenda Approval	Ms. Thompson asked for approval of the agenda for the June 28, 2022, meeting: <p style="text-align: center;">Motion: Ric Preuss Seconded: Chris Uhl Motion Carried – Approved Unanimously</p> Cal Sharp asked for approval of the meeting minutes from the May 10, 2022, meeting: <p style="text-align: center;">Motion: Lena Barkley Seconded: Chris Uhl Motion Carried – Approved Unanimously</p>	
III. DESC President Board Report	Terri Weems: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided an overview of the business to be discussed and highlighted that the budget recommendations would be submitted by the Audit & Finance Committee for approval. • Shared that DESC continues to trend upward and project the budget to be in the triple-digits for the first time in DESC's 10-year history. 	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussed the impact of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Dollars granted to DESC thus far. Mrs. Weems shared that the team has worked tirelessly to find new ways to maximize its impact while continuing to provide meaningful services and opportunities to Detroit jobseekers, all while remaining conservative and fiscally responsible. • Detailed that the Grow Detroit’s Young Talent (GDYT) Summer Youth Employment Program is off to a great start, and that staff are excited about the opportunity to employ 8,000 youth this summer and invest in the workforce of tomorrow. • Highlighted DESC Board Member Dannis Mitchell, for being recognized as a Notable Woman in Construction by Crain’s Detroit Business and Detroit at Work’s Chief Strategy Officer, Dana Williams, for her participation in a panel at the Mackinac Policy Conference entitled, “Workforce Diversity and Equity as Michigan’s Competitive Edge,” along with Lieutenant Governor Garlin Gilchrist, General Motors, and JP Morgan Chase. • Extended an invitation to all board members to attend DESC’s 10-Year Celebration held at DESC’s offices. • Recognized the Board’s efforts to champion workforce development in the City of Detroit and your unwavering support of our staff each day. • Expressed gratitude for our continued partnership with the Mayor’s Office of Workforce Development, under the leadership and guidance of DESC Board Member and City of Detroit Group Executive, Nicole Sherard-Freeman. <p>Board discussion ensued.</p>	
<p>IV. Detroit at Work / MWDB Update</p>	<p>Nicole Sherard-Freeman:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognized the Workforce Development efforts of Terri Weems. • Described how quickly Detroit resident employment rebounded after the worst of the pandemic, but that employment numbers have trended downward slightly. She shared that there are some regional concerns with trends as well. • Provided details around employment numbers and the charge of Detroit at Work -- generally, large portion of the nation is of working age but isn't working, and so it is our charge to be sure that Detroiters who want to work are ready. • Detailed the strategy going forward to fill the large number of open jobs, to target activist groups to help get the word out, including community, violence prevention, housing, and water activists, among others. <p>Board discussion ensued.</p>	
<p>V. Audit and Finance Committee Update</p>	<p>Chris Uhl introduced Terri Weems, DESC President to provide an update:</p> <p>Terri Weems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented a detailed proposed budget and gave background on the budget development process. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlighted the signature programs we support, including GDYT, Learn to Earn, Get Paid to Learn a Trade, Skills for Life, Returning Citizens Support, and Business Start Up Support, among others. Shared that the bulk of the increases in the budget were related to the ARPA investments already made and discussed the status of the dollars DESC responded to RFPs for. She also shared that there was an increased need for hiring to support the increased programming commitments being made in FY 2023. Introduced DESC's Chief Financial officer, Traci Sassak. <p>Ms. Thompson called for a motion to approve the FY 2022 / 2023 budget:</p> <p>Motion to approve the DESC FY 2022/2023 Budget:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Motion: Chris Uhl Seconded: Lena Barkley</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Motion Carried – Approved Unanimously</p> <p>Board discussion ensued.</p>	
<p>VI. Program Services Committee Update</p>	<p>Ms. Thompson introduced Madelyn Bernard-Diab, DESC's COO to provide an update:</p> <p>Madelyne Bernard-Diab:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided an update on the status of Wagner-Peyser and the result of DESC's research efforts to determine the best path moving forward with merit staff. It was determined that DESC should on a temporary basis award Downriver Community Conference (DCC) Wagner-Peyser dollars until state merit staff are required to provide the services. Detailed that the Program Services Committee approved giving DCC up to an additional \$1.29 million in Wagner-Peyser funding over the amount approved at our last Program Services Committee meeting, of \$1.019M. That would bring the total funding level for DCC to no more than \$ 2.309M. <p>Ms. Thompson called for a motion to approve the additional funding for DCC:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Motion: Ric Preuss Seconded: Chris Uhl Motion Carried – Approved Unanimously</p>	
<p>VII. Public Comments</p>	<p>There was no public comment.</p>	
<p>VIII. Adjournment</p>	<p>Ms. Thompson called to adjourn the meeting:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Motion: Ric Preuss Seconded: Dannis Mitchell</p>	

	Motion Carried – Approved Unanimously	
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DRAFT SUBMITTED BY:

Printed Name: Elizabeth Hennessey

Title: Administrator, Special Projects

Signature: /s/ E Hennessey

Date: 07/03/2022

DATE MINUTES APPROVED/ADOPTED: EH **Initials:** 08/23/2022

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, August 23, 2022 @ 9:45 AM