

Workforce Development Board

Approved Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 30, 2017, 2pm-4pm

Location: Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, Michigan Room

Call to Order

The meeting of the City of Detroit – Workforce Development Board was called to order at 2:05pm by Workforce Development Board Co-Chairs Cindy Pasky and Dave Meador.

Approval of Agenda

Chair Pasky asked for a motion to approve the Draft Agenda as presented. A motion was made and supported to adopt the draft as presented. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Reports & Presentations

Grow Detroit's Young Talent (GDYT): Ed Duggan introduced fellow presenter Nicole Sherard-Freeman and invited the Board to attend the 2017 GDYT kick-off event February 8, 2017. Mr. Duggan reviewed the 2016 GDYT results: 8,157 youth employed with 220 employers across 600 worksites and \$10.5M raised. Mr. Duggan presented a breakdown of the funding sources and mentioned how there is an effort to ensure the program is sustainable going forward. Mr. Duggan presented a breakdown of the 2016 GDYT demographics and defined the terms used to describe partners and employers. He ended by adding vocational training was new to the 2016 GDYT offerings, and that participants were evaluated by their employers.

Nicole Sherard-Freeman presented on the plans for GDYT in 2017 and moving forward. The number of participants is going to remain around 8,000. Emphasis will be placed on finding quality experiences that lead to career pathways for participants, through increased placement with employers and in vocational training.

A question was asked about the potential downside of placing youth in vocational training at the expense of, or as an alternative to a 4-year college or university. Board members discussed and agreed that the two paths aren't mutual exclusive, how vocation training is often counted as school credit, and how training can inform career choices.

Ms. Sherard-Freeman continued discussing the enhancements to GDYT, around the matching of youth to employers and experiences and the example of Linked Learning. She then explained the role of Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation (DESC) as the fiduciary and administrator of GDYT. She called upon Board members to get involved in 2017 through donations and commitments. She closed by looking ahead to 2018 and the goals of continuing to enhance GDYT.

Board members engaged in discussion around the following points: Increasing placements of youth into work experiences, how GDYT fits into the ecosystem of youth work in Detroit, placement of youth into manufacturing jobs, reaching disconnect youth through GDYT, evaluating which participants are most successful and why.

DPSCD Randolph CTE Partnership: Chair Meador provided the history of CTE in Detroit and the reasons for the current state of the Randolph school. He shared the vision of Randolph as a world-class CTE center for Detroit youth and adults.

Board members asked question about the role of organized labor, which were addressed by explaining the link to apprenticeships after graduation. Board members also inquired about funding, and Executive Director Jeff Donofrio explained how federal Carl Perkins funding and state education money factor into the current arrangement. Another

Board member asked how students enroll at Randolph. Chair Meador answered that they chose to enroll, and Chair Pasky added that this partnership is the first, and other CTE schools are next.

Mr. Donofrio outlined the agreement between DPSCD and DESC, provided an overview of curriculum creation, the link to higher education, and the division of responsibilities between the partners. In an answer to a Board member's question Mr. Donofrio reiterated that the agreement protects any capital improvements and equipment from future adverse action.

Nicole Stallings presented on the timeline and goals of the partnership, highlighting the current programs and the planned programs. Emphasizing how the challenges currently faced in enrollment, funding, curriculum, and equipment were interrelated but would be addressed. She highlighted the planned building improvements such and presented an overview of the approximate budget for 2017-2018 and 2018-2019.

Board members discussed a number of topics, including; the school's location, options for GED completion, eventualities in the case of a fundraising shortfall, and wraparound services and coordination with existing providers.

Nicole ended with outlining how Board members and their respective organizations could be involved and support the school and partnership.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the City of Detroit – Workforce Development Board Chair Pasky requested adjournment of the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 4:02pm. Motion Carried Unanimously.