



## **CITY OF DETROIT**

# **MAYOR'S WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

Monday, June 11, 2018, 10:00 am-12 noon Location: Detroit  
Public Safety Headquarters  
1301 Third, Detroit MI 48226

### **Proposed Meeting Minutes**

***Co-Chairs: Cindy Pasky & Dave Meador***

#### **Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 10:13 am by Workforce Development Board Co-Chair Cindy Pasky.

#### **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 agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Approval of Draft Minutes from November, 2017 Meeting:**

Chair Pasky asked for a motion to approve the Draft Minutes of the March 23, 2018. A motion was made and supported to adopt the Draft Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **REPORTS:**

##### **Co-Chairs Report: Cynthia Pasky and Chair Dave Meador**

Dave Meador:

Discussed efforts of the CEO group around workforce and economic development. The group is working to create an umbrella economic development organization for the region with a focus on creating single point of entry and coordinated approach to business attraction, economic development, and inclusion. The CEO group has also created a procurement initiative aimed at identifying point of entry jobs for Detroiters. It's critical that workforce and economic development stay connected. Flex N Gate and Sakthi are examples of how a coordinated approach can assure development leads to equity and inclusion for Detroiters.

Transit was a big topic at the Mackinac Island Policy Conference this year along with Workforce Development. We need to stay the course on transit and continue to remove other barriers, like driver's responsibility fees (DRF). Four thousand Detroiters have already signed up for workforce classes that allow forgiveness of DRFs and reinstatement of drivers licenses. Great work. Another barrier we need to tackle is the requirements around professional licenses that prevent returning citizens from obtaining jobs.



## Executive Director's Report: Jeff Donofrio

**Guest Speaker: Alexia Dunson,** Thank you to everyone who worked to pass Drivers Responsibility Forgiveness legislation. Eleven years ago, I received tickets for driving with no proof of insurance. I paid the tickets but had \$5000 in outstanding DRF's which, when unpaid, resulted in a suspended driver's license. I couldn't pay it off, having to pay my bills instead of paying the fees. This has been a burden on me. I have a Medical Assistant certificate, but because I didn't have a license, I wasn't able to find a job. In May of 2018, I signed up for the early forgiveness workforce program. I was able to complete the program in one week and had \$4910 forgiven! I would encourage Detroiters to complete the online training. Thank you for doing great work. I have a job at Enterprise and a lot of offers now that I can drive.

Jeff Donofrio:

Reminder of the board's goal to increase residential employment, lower poverty and increase household income. To do so we are working to execute on three strategic pillars: Increasing Training and Career Pathways, Barrier Elimination, & Systems Change.

Training and Career Pathways GDYT Update: Thank you to the Board Members who have contributed time and jobs for our summer youth employment program: Grow Detroit's Young Talent (GDYT.) Together we have raised \$11.5M to support this effort in 2018 and launched the Career Academy Pilot to prepare students for job opportunities during the school year.

Update on the recently launched employer resource network in Detroit, Goodwill's Surge Center. WK Kellogg Foundation has funded the program which is designed to assist employees in resolving issues that could otherwise lead to termination. Eight companies have signed up, with another five ready to participate. The program reduces employee turnover and helps decrease HR related costs. Dr. Colleen Allen and the Barriers Committee of the board have been working with Goodwill to help launch the program.

Driver's Responsibility Fees: All fees will be forgiven in October thanks to an eight bill package that was passed into law early 2018. As part of the package we were able to launch an early forgiveness program for Detroiters entering into at least ten hours of workforce training. Many thanks to the work of DESC staff and Rachel Zuckerman on launching this program and making an online version available. The first day the website went live, over 1500 Detroiters signed up. To date, over 4000 Detroiters have registered and 700 have completed all requirements.

System Redesign: Stakeholder engagement began last fall on our redesign of our career center system. We continue to incorporate this feedback into our design with implementation continuing through next year.

Workforce Environment: Two items to note. First is the passage of State Medicaid work requirements. Starting in 2020, Michigan will require that able-bodied individuals work or be enrolled in training for eighty hours a month to maintain their Medicaid benefits. Impacted individuals will require training and wrap around support services to meet these requirements, however, no additional funding is anticipated at this time.



Second, the allocation of federal workforce funding is linked to the City's unemployment rate. As the unemployment rate trends down, fewer formula dollars are expected to be allocated, even though those being served typically have a greater need. Thanks to our development of other funding sources we expect our 2018/2019 budget to remain roughly the same as last year.

Employment issues related to marijuana legalization will be explored by the board. We'll be looking at what is happening in states where ballot initiatives have passed.

Hilarie Chambers stated that there are now three new equivalency test to receive a high school diploma—not just GED (which is a brand). Need to get some education to employers.

**Guest Speaker: Ashley Booker,** A mentor helped her get on a GDYT Career Pathway and get a job at PCI, an engineering firm in Detroit. The process gave her a mentor which has been a positive force in her life. She would like to get her Master's degree with an HR focus. She credits the GDYT process in establishing this beneficial relationship that has helped her to succeed.

**Guest: Christopher Lara,** Participated in GDYT and obtained a job at the IDEAL Corporation. He worked part-time during the school year and transitioned to full time during the summer where he is a leader for the new GDYT interns. Christopher is attending Loyola University and credits GDYT for the opportunity to grow and go from someone who has a job to someone who has a career.

### **New Business:**

WIOA documents (WIOA Local {Detroit} Workforce Plan 2016-2020 & WIOA Region {Wayne, Oakland, Macomb} Workforce Plan 2016-2020) were sent out for public comment. There is no action to be taken at this time as public comment period is still open.

### **Presentations:**

#### **Career Technical Education Update - Deputy Director: Nicole Stallings**

CTE Partnerships: Introduced Jason Headon, Quicken Director of State and Local Government Affairs and Brenda Belcher, DPSCD-Adult & CTE Education.

Nicole Stallings:

It's hard to believe that one year ago we were just starting renovations on the Randolph Career Tech Center. We're now finishing phase two of construction of Randolph and have just graduated the first class of high school students from the school. This fall, we'll be offering two new high school classes: welding and drywall/painting. 187 adults enrolled in our adult training programs so far (goal: 300 by years end), with 56 graduates in jobs or conducting job searches.

For the 110 graduating high school seniors, we are assisting with three career pathways: GDYT/ careers to full time employment, College both 2 and 4 year programs, and Apprenticeships (with great union participation). We have sponsored employer and union field trips, career exploration events and on-site opportunity fairs with colleges and employers. 80% of seniors have signed up for GDYT or the Detroit promise. We will continue to help graduates with placement through the summer.



This year we are also engaged in the revitalize the Breithaupt Career Tech Center through our partnership with Detroit Public Schools Community District and Quicken Loans/Bedrock.

Jason Headon: Quicken Loans is donating \$1M to help revitalize Breithaupt. We are looking internally for in-kind services that we can provide as well – Bedrock, DPOP-and working with Barton Mallow to manage renovations. As part of our commitment we're developing internships and work based learning opportunities for students in our companies and with our tenants.

Brenda Belcher: As the head of CTE for DPSCD I want to say thank you for your keen focus and commitment to providing opportunities for our students. Good news to announce! In the past, home high schools had to share funding with the CTE schools, which created a disincentive to sending students to the CTE Centers. DPSCD has changed that model, with CTE funding coming out of a central budget. We have also expanded staffing, adding \$800K for new staff at Randolph and Breithaupt and partnering with Wayne RESA to provide counseling to our seniors.

DPSCD is also adding a Dean of Culture and attendance staff in each school to work with principals to ensure that all students feel cared for and are in an environment to do their best work. This is essential. We are also working with UM Youth Policy Lab to track results to determine the impact of the work that is being done.

Nicole Stalling stated that to continue our work, financial support is always welcome. In-kind donations are also important. We need vehicles for our automotive lab, specialized tools for automotive repair, and always consumables for the culinary and cosmetology classes will be welcomed.

### **Public Comments**

None

### **Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the City of Detroit- Workforce Development Board, Dave Meador requested adjournment of the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 am. Motion carried unanimously.