

DRAFT MINUTES
Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation Board
Strategic Planning Committee Meeting
Monday, February 10, 2014

Time: 8:30 – 10:30 a.m.
Location: 440 East Congress, 4th Floor
Facilitating: Dr. George Swan, Chair

Directors Present: George Swan, Lena Barkley, Art Dudley
Directors Absent: Kenyetta Bridges, Karl Gregory, Cal Sharp
Staff Present: Pamela Moore, Robert Shimkoski (via teleconference), Kristin Bailey, Stephanie Nixon,
Alessia Baker-Giles, L'Tanya Clegg
Guest Present: Larry Good, Corporation for a Skilled Workforce

PROCEEDINGS

The meeting of the Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation Board (DESC) Strategic Planning Committee was called to order at 8:40 a.m. by Dr. George Swan, Chair. Due to the lack of a quorum, there was no approval of the Draft Agenda for February 10, 2014 and Draft Minutes of December 5, 2013.

DESC STRATEGIC OUTLOOK 2014

Ms. Pamela Moore, President/CEO at DESC, shared information about her trip to Washington D.C. and noted that there is a lot of buzz about Detroit. She talked about the Detroit Workforce Development Board (DWDB) and DESC Board's strategic planning session slated to take place in spring 2014 and noted that DESC is on track with its strategic goals. For example, DESC has expanded its youth program and is preparing the youth readiness piece for customers and employer engagement. Ms. Moore hopes that Mayor Duggan will embrace the Hire Detroit awareness campaign in his initiative to increase employment opportunities for Detroiters. She also noted that metrics are really important to the Mayor and stated that DESC should continue to be conscientious about its metrics as it makes strategic plans for the year ahead.

Ms. Moore also mentioned that she and Ms. Kristin Bailey, Administrative Manager at DESC, met with Mr. Bryan Barnhill from the Mayor's office and discussed the composition and current vacancies of the DWDB and DESC Board. A brief discussion ensued about sectors on the DWDB with vacancies.

DISCUSSION: FUND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

501(c)3 Status Update

Director Art Dudley explained that DESC is in fact a 501(c)3 but is currently classified by the IRS as a private foundation. He then discussed the issues involved with private foundation classification. He shared that DESC believes it meets the requirement for public charity status and noted that continued efforts are required in order to change its current classification with the IRS.

FIVE-YEAR PLAN MEASURES STATUS UPDATE

Ms. Stephanie Nixon, Director of Contract Administration, reviewed the Five-Year Plan for the second quarter of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Report and presented a chart that summarized the quarter ending in December 2013. Ms. Nixon discussed the "Plan Level" metrics, which are the measurement levels dictated by the State of Michigan that DESC is required to follow. The measure entitled "Actual" is the measurement that DESC actually achieves. Ms. Nixon reviewed in detail the one measure that DESC failed, which is the "Dislocated Worker Average Wage". She explained that this measure represents the second and third quarter earnings after exit which are combined and divided by the number of participants eligible in that quarter. Ms.

Nixon stated that this area is a challenge because wages are now lower and statistics now show that although wages decreased, this measure has increased. Ms. Nixon also mentioned that DESC is looking into presenting a case to the State of Michigan about lower wages in the City of Detroit in an attempt to negotiate that number down.

Mr. Larry Good, Consultant from Corporation for a Skilled Workforce (CSW), stated that this is a number around the country that has had problems over time, explaining that some states have had battles with the United States Department of Labor (USDOL) over where these numbers will be set for their individual state. Discussion continued pertaining to what DESC can do now in order to avoid issues about this measure down the road. Ms. Nixon stated that staff can write a position paper and submit it to the State, which should take place now so negotiations can begin. Ms. Nixon stated that other MWAs negotiate measures that they believe are unrealistic and DESC can do the same. The committee agreed.

BOARD ASSESSMENT SURVEY REVIEW

Mr. Good shared that Chair Swan has discussed the importance of conducting some form of board assessment. CSW created a survey which can be used for both the DWDB and the DESC Board. He explained that this document will provide comprehensive feedback about both Boards' assessment of their own performance as well as their engagement with the agency. He reviewed the survey in detail and explained the assessment process. Discussion continued about the survey's benefits and how and when it will be administered to new members.

GOOD AND WELFARE

Director Lena Barkley shared that CVS will no longer sell tobacco after October and also mentioned that jobs will be available soon for 17-year olds at the front of the store. In addition, CVS has received approval from its corporate offices to participate in the Year-Round Youth Employment/Work Experience program.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to come before the Strategic Planning Committee, a motion was made by Director Barkley to adjourn the meeting at 10:12 a.m., supported by Director Dudley.

Submitted by: L'Tanya Clegg