



# **CITY OF DETROIT**

## **MAYOR'S WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

Monday, November 27, 10:00 am-12 noon  
Location: Detroit Public Safety Headquarters  
1301 Third Ave, Detroit MI 48226

### **Proposed Meeting Minutes**

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

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

The meeting of the City of Detroit –Workforce Development Board was called to order at 10:04 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 draft as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Approval of Draft Minutes from March Meeting:**

Chair Pasky asked for a motion to approve the Draft Minutes of the August 14, 2017 meeting of the City of Detroit-Workforce Development Board. A motion was made and supported to adopt the Draft Minutes of the Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **REPORTS:**

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

Resident employment in Detroit continues to improve, but there are still many individuals outside the workforce that we need to reach. This year, Detroit employment is the highest number it has been in the last seven years.

We're working to help make sure this progress reaches as many Detroiters as possible with programs:

- Returning citizens: being offered a second chance through our in prison and community programs
- Randolph Career Tech Center: 10-year Workforce Board partnership with Detroit Public Schools Community District to support youth & adult skilled trades training. \$10M committed for first 3 years to modernizing building, programs, connect with employers and add adult education in the evenings and weekends. Second partnership being developed around the Breithaupt CTE Center
- Healthcare program: Partnering with Detroit hospitals, we have trained and placed patient care associates. 90% placement from the first two cohorts



### **Executive Director's Report: Jeff Donofrio**

**Driver's Responsibility Fee Update:** As we've discussed in the past, 18% of Detroit's adult population, and a large number of returning citizens, have outstanding fees which result in suspension of driver's licenses, creating barrier to work.

The Board has made eliminating this barrier a top priority and has worked with partners across the State to find a solution. In October, a 9-bill legislative package to eliminate this debt was passed in the House and Senate. Each chamber passed a slightly different version, but each offered alternative means of payment through community service and training programs and included some measure of debt forgiveness. Legislature needs to work out differences before bills can be sent to the Governor. Will be asking members of the board to help educate elected officials on the need for these fees to be forgiven.

Over the last 2 years we've helped to improve the workforce system in Detroit through new partnerships, programs and initiatives. While we are seeing real progress, we still need to do more. This coming year we have the opportunity to continue this progress through the redesign of our workforce service and delivery model.

**SNAP 50/50 Update:** program provides education & training to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participants seeking employment, with the US Department of Agriculture providing a 50% match on local funding. We are awarding \$1 million in local funding to organizations seeking to serve this population,

Introduced Dee Prosi, Communication Director for Workforce. Dee stated she was inspired by the remarkable energy around the workforce efforts.

Conrad Mallet brought up the city's partnership with Wayne County Community College (WC3) for specific training programs. Teachers are there, programs exist but we need to look at the quality of the programs.

LaJune Montgomery mentioned the early childhood development projects need to be a part of what is being looked at for improvement.

### **Grow Detroit's Young Talent Update: Nicole Sherard-Freeman, CEO, DESC**

Review of the successful 2017 GDYT summer program: 8,127 youth participated in the program with \$10.3M (\$9.2M private donations) raised to support training, wages & administrative costs. Key program improvements for 2018 include digital badging as part of micro credentialing and launch of a pilot based off a Boston program that prepares students for summer internships during the school year. This career specialist program imbeds staff in high schools and allows them to form a long term relationship with students.

### **Guest Speaker: Detroit Public Schools Community District, Superintendent – Dr. Nikolai Vitti**

Dr. Vitti discussed DPSCD's new strategic plan along with focus on career pathways. Randolph CTE is a model to align programs and pathways. DPSCD needs to ensure we are training to industry standards, the master schedule is protected, collaborate with industry as to needs assessment, and standardize certifications. Students should be able to pick a program that suits their interest and ability and have internship opportunities. Teachers are needed from the industries who are better aligned to the needs of Detroit. Working with the DFT to think about pay for skilled trades teachers and how we recruit and retain



teachers in a career academy. There is a pay inequity that will need to be addressed. Randolph is teaching us. Teachers took a 10% wage cut ten years ago that has never been made up. They will be receiving an increase in salary in January and then the next January. To have responsible stewardship we need full time DPSCD employees that have ownership in the outcomes.

The CTE projects are a win-win for the city, business, the district but mostly for the students. We need to create the political space to rebuild the district. We need reform, a new agenda. We won't reach our goals if Detroiters won't place their children in Detroit schools. We won't reach the highest impact without partners. To maximize the impact to the city we all need to work through the DPSCD to ensure alignment at every level.

### **Randolph CTE Update: Deputy Director - Nicole Stallings**

Early results from Randolph have exceeded expectations. We surpassed our high school enrollment goal of 300 and have seen excitement building among students, teachers and the community around the new and enhanced programs. We are attracting nontraditional candidates to the school as well, with women making up approximately one-third of the students. The adult programs have also begun with a goal of training 300 students over the next year.

Phase 2 of building renovations has started with the goal of preparing the remaining classroom and common area space for new programs and the continuation of building system modernization. New programs targeted for fall of 2018 include welding, green infrastructure, and robotics.

Looking at Breithaupt as the next CTE partnership in Retail, Customer Service (culinary arts, hospitality & automotive servicing and repair.)

Chair Pasky mentioned that the education tied to industry is what has made this effort so successful.

Dr Vitti commented that we need to move services to the school level so both students and parents can access.

### **Public Comments**

None

### **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 11:59 am. Motion carried unanimously.