



EMPLOY MILWAUKEE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, November 6, 2019

2342 North 27th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53210 - Room 116

1:30 to 3:00 pm

DRAFT MINUTES

(pending Committee approval)

Members Present: Katrice Cotton (Chair), Vera Ford, Gerard Randall, La Toya Sykes, Maria Rodriguez, Jolene Cooley, Donta Holmes, Sharlen Moore, David Knutson

Members Excused: Karen Burns Sotak, Derick Cornelius, Dionne Grayson, Karen Higgins, Mark Kessenich

Employ Milwaukee Staff Present: Pete Coffaro, Toni White, Tim McMurtry, Eileen McMahon

Guests Present: Chee Thao (UNCOM), Darrin Madison (Urban Underground), Wilfredo Vigil (MJCC), Mai Yang (Maximus)

Chair Cotton called meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

1. Introductions

Everyone present introduced themselves.

2. Review and Approve Minutes from August 14, 2019

Chair Cotton requested members to review minutes from August 14, 2019 and let her know of any changes or omissions. After briefly discussing, minutes were correct as circulated.

La Toya Sykes motioned for approval of August 14, 2019 Youth Committee meeting minutes; Maria Rodriguez seconded; August 14, 2019 meeting minutes approved unanimously.

3. Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Local Plan

a. Local Plan Updates

Mr. Coffaro reported there were no policies to review at this time.

4. Youth Program Reports

Packet information – Coffaro Memo dated October 15, 2019 Re Recommendation to Approve WIOA ISY Services

a. WIOA In School Youth

Due to layoff in July and attrition since, Employ Milwaukee is down 20% of staff, including some key personnel in our Youth Department that worked in the high schools as part of Career Plus/WIOA In School Youth (ISY) Services program. Decision was made to contract out the WIOA ISY services for the period November 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. Solicitation was issued the first week of October with a five-day window to respond. Four proposals were received, and evaluation team met and scored the responses. Program Committee held special meeting on October 16, 2019 and recommended Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee. During the past year, 74 youth participated in the program. Ms. White added the program operates in conjunction with Brighter Futures and gives individuals more options and enrichment while combining academic activities with paid work experience.

Next steps – Executive Committee will review Program Committee recommendation for Boys and Girls Club of Greater Milwaukee for a contract not to exceed \$185,000. Once we receive that approval, contract will be signed.

b. Brighter Futures

This program engages young people to provide workforce and career services both during the day and after school to assist them in navigating a career pathway. Program currently runs at four high schools: Bayview, Bradley Tech, Obama and North Division. Future plans to include Washington. Mr. Coffaro presented graph of goal vs. actual for enrollment, ACP grade level completions, work experience, job readiness training, social and emotional learning completion. Question was posed if guidance counselors assist and what are job opportunities. Response was combination of Career Coordinator and Counselor but have to be referred. Job opportunities include office assistant, teacher assistant, janitorial assistant with hourly wage of \$7.80 10-15 hours per week. Important to get parents buy-in to try to explain program to them at the outset.

c. WIOA Title 1B OSY

Focus is engaging youth who have graduated high school and directing into workforce or post-secondary options with a deadline of 6/30/20. Have to combine academic component with paid work experience. Out of School Youth have more barriers. Needed services include GED assistance, reading and math skills testing and placement with TASE.

Mr. Coffaro explained there are four core metrics in WIOA Youth Performance, the toughest of which is credential attainment and data for this category is delayed. Latest data is from January 1st thru December 31st, 2017. Committee briefly discussed WIOA Youth Performance Graph.

d. YouthBuild

The first cohort of 36 Cream City Youth is enrolled and upon completion, participants received HSED/MC3 industry-recognized credential. Parameters are high school graduate or drop out with GED, 18-24. Program runs ten months, 28 hours per week at \$10/hour.

Question was posed if there are challenges filling cohorts with 36 individuals?

Response was yes, can be difficult, so providers and youth staff are looking at different avenues via social media geared to this age group and community-based agencies.

e. Compete Milwaukee

Youth work with contractors and learn skills and achieve certifications. Compete Milwaukee program runs for six months at 11.32/hour. Mr. Coffaro explained that the Police Ambassador program had a goal of 20 for youth 18-24 and 20 have been served. The Contractor Connections program had a goal of 18 and 19 participated.

f. Motivating Apprenticeship Pathways (MAP) Youth Reentry Grant

MAP is an integrated cognitive behavioral change and employability program with a paid learning and training experience aimed at reducing recidivism and contact with the criminal justice system. Target population is 188 justice-involved young adults aged 18-24 residing in Milwaukee's high crime/high poverty neighborhoods. The program provides career counseling, training, supportive services and placement services. This is a \$1.5 million grant from the US Department of Labor. The project runs from September 1, 2018 through September 30, 2021. Currently at 32% of goal with 60 enrolled. Mr. Coffaro asked for assistance in recruiting for this program. Members should contact Wylbur Holloway, Program Specialist at Employ Milwaukee at 414-270-1796.

g. TechHire

The second cohort has graduated, and we will continue to drive this placement goal averaging \$16/hour. Ms. White added that curriculum is difficult and utilizes Accuplacer entry into MATC. The Milwaukee Housing Authority and MATC have been excellent partners. MATC helps identify those individuals that would be a good fit. The program runs 16 weeks Monday thru Friday from 9:00 AM to Noon and next cohort begins February 2020. 174 individuals have been served to date. October 2019 cohort had 7 graduates, and all were certified as IT Service Center Technicians through MATC.

h. Earn and Learn

Since we updated members on final numbers at last meeting, today we have a success story to share. Zion Bullock worked at ALIVE as a media and marketing intern. He was a trailblazer for helping to accomplish our mission of helping people discover their purpose through identifying personal passions and refining skills. Zion also learned more about how his purpose fits into a career. He always went above and beyond and transcended what we could have hoped for.

i. Youth Apprenticeship

Current school district partners are Brown Deer, Nicolet, Wauwatosa and West Allis. Planning is underway to expand into Milwaukee County charter or private schools not affiliated with MPS. For 2019-20 we have a goal of 25 with 20 enrolled currently.

5. Overview of WIOA Procurement Timeline & Process

Packet information – WIOA Procurement Process Timeline

Members reviewed EMI WIOA Title 1-B Procurement Timeline. Internal team working on RFPs for Adult and Dislocated, Youth and One Stop Operator. Hope to post RFP by December 10, 2019. By February 2020, EMI staff will be reviewing all proposals to ensure compliance with mandatory submittal requirements. All respondents will receive either a responsive proposal letter (indicating applicant submitted all the necessary documents to proceed for review) or a non-responsive proposal letter (indicating all required documents were not submitted and proposal will not proceed with evaluation.) Two evaluation teams will convene to evaluate all proposals:

- Youth Services Review Team (five members) – 1 Program Committee, 1 Youth Committee, 1 EMI Youth Staff, and 1 External
- Adult/Dislocated Worker/OSO Review Team (five members) – 1 Program Committee, 2 EMI Adult Staff, 1 EMI Business Services Staff, 1 External Representative

Per the timeline, after evaluation and scoring, Program Committee will vote on recommendation in March of 2020, followed by the Executive Committee for final approval. Contracts will begin July 1st, 2020. After discussion, committee commented that timeline makes sense and looks very reasonable.

6. Member Updates – No further discussion was held.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:39 p.m. by Chair Dr. Cotton.

Next Youth Committee Meeting: Wednesday, February 12, 2020; 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. at Employ Milwaukee

Next Board of Directors Meeting: Thursday, December 12*, 2019; 8:30 -10:00 a. m. at Employ Milwaukee

**The Board Meeting was subsequently cancelled.*

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