

**Youth Workforce Investment Council
Central MA AHEC
February 12, 2015**

Members Present: Ron Scott, Isidore Nosike, David Tirendi (proxy for Mark Riolo), Jena Adams, Robin Hooper, Jason Poole (Proxy for Kristin Mayotte), Kevin Crowley (Proxy for Janice Weekes), John Trainor, Raquel Castro-Corazini, Frank Kartheiser, Tony Poti,

Members in Process/Guests: Penny Welch, Denise Perrault, Judy Freedman-Fask, Joanne Calista, Chris Poole, Carolyn Gordon

Staff Present: Sean McGauley, Ed Gagne, Roy Lucas

1. **Welcome & Introductions:** The meeting was called to order and guests were asked to introduce themselves.
2. **Note of Potential Conflicts of Interest & Confirmation of Quorum:** A quorum was present and no conflicts were noted at this time.
3. **Vote:**
 - a. **Approval of Minutes of December 11, 2014:** The December 11, 2014 meeting minutes were unanimously approved upon a motion by T. Poti and a second.
4. **Partner Presentation: Central MA AHEC:** J. Adams from Central MA AHEC provided the partner presentation. Please see handouts section for more information.
Action: S. McGauley was asked to send out the program information and presentation to the full YWIC.
5. **Discussion:**
 - a. **Review of YWIC Workplan:** E. Gagne reviewed the YWIC Workplan noting this was something the Committee worked on a while ago and has been a work in progress and is a 'living document.' The group reviewed the plan.
 - b. **Youth Career Center:** E. Gagne led discussion around the possibility of creating a youth career center within the City. The CMWIB has applied for a grant that may help financially support this idea. The group discussed options including housing the center at a partner location(s) or somewhere that staff can commit an hour or more each week. R. Castro-Corazini also noted that the City Manager has expressed interest in duplicating the More Than Words model from Boston here in Worcester. The More Than Words Project is a bookstore/coffee shop run entirely by youth and thought it might be a possibility to incorporate a youth career center. More information to come.
6. **Updates:**
 - a. **WIA Youth Update:** E. Gagne reported that the local FY14 WIA program numbers exceeded our fourth quarter goals. It was noted that the second and third quarter performance would be reviewed in greater detail at the next meeting.
 - b. **YouthWorks:** F. Katheiser noted that we are still facing high unemployment for youth. A team representing Worcester is headed to Boston to advocate for funding for youth jobs and get money in the budget for FY16 (please see handouts section for flyer). .
 - c. **Job1 Group**

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- **GROW Awards:** On February 26th, this year's Growing & Readyng Our Workforce (GROW) will be taking place at the Asa Waters Mansion where four local employers and outgoing Senator Richard Moore will be honored for their commitment to youth workforce development.
- **YWIC Professional Development Series:** C. Poole presented on the upcoming YWIC Professional Development workshop 'Ice Breakers 101' and the YOU, Inc. ACE Program. Please see handouts section for more information.

Action: S. McGauley was asked to send out more information to the YWIC.

- d. **Connecting Activities:** S. McGauley reported that there are two upcoming Connecting Activities (CA) events this month. The first is a CA Leadership conference. This event will bring together CA youth service providers around the region to review where CA Partners stand in relation to their performance goals halfway through the year, and the major issue of employer engagement. The primary focus of the February 17th conference will be on improving/increasing employer engagement. Second, Program Managers (PM) for Connecting Activities will be completing site visits to the CA Partners and their regions. These visits will allow PM to view the progress of each region, address concerns and issues specific to that region.
 - e. **Bounce Youth Class:** R. Lucas announced that a Bounce Readiness Course will be taking place over the next 12 weeks. Staff are working to pull together a course at the career center and other area youth programs to ensure access. This course will be a 2-week program, serving approximately 20 youth ages 16 to 24. Please contact LucasR@workforcecentralma.gov for more information.
 - f. **YWIC Member Program Updates:** There were no update made at this time.
7. **Announcements**
8. **Next Meeting:**
- a. **April 9th- Next partner presentation/host site?**
9. **Adjourn:** There being no other announcements, the meeting was adjourned on a second by R. Hooper and a second.

*Respectfully submitted by,
Sean McGauley
CMWIB*

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