

## TOMPKINS COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

October 24, 2017

8:30 A.M. Borg Warner Room – Tompkins County Public Library

**Present:** D. Burrows, L. Dillon, B. Forrest, A. Hendrix, K. Kersey, P. Levesque, J. Sammons, M. Stamm, J. Tavares  
**Excused:** A. Bishop, I. Burbank, A. Iles, J. Mareane, J. Matteson, O. Montague, M. Williamee  
**Absent:** M. Abdelrehim, J. Lance, S. Pronti, K. Smith, M. Stazi  
**Ex-Officio:** L. Holmes  
**Guests:** S. Dale-Hall, Child Development Council; T. Doherty, T Geisenhoff, C. Harris, NYSDOL  
**Staff:** J. Mattick, J. Luu

### Call to Order

Chairman Burrows called the meeting to order at 8:39 a.m.

### Board Member Roles and Responsibilities

Ms. Mattick distributed a handout on board member responsibilities and encouraged members to contact her with any questions.

### Board Action Items

Approval of the minutes and the procurement policy were deferred to the December Board meeting.

### Executive Director's Report

Ms. Mattick reported the search for the Director of the Office of Employment and Training is in the final stages. The process took longer than expected, but she hopes to have someone on board by the next Board meeting.

Ms. Mattick reported that the budget request to the County was submitted and includes an over target request of \$30,000 for the Office of Employment and Training to cover expected rent increases. She believes the Department of Labor will be moving to a FTE model. Previous agreements have been based on square footage. She also stated that an OTR was submitted for the WFDB to hire a .5fte Administrative Coordinator to assist with program monitoring.

Ms. Dillon arrived at 8:44 a.m.

### Committee Reports

#### Executive Committee

Mr. Burrow stated at their last meeting the Committee had very good conversation about engaging the Board and the Community.

#### Youth Oversight Committee

Ms. Hendrix reported the Committee has begun work on the WIOA Youth Request for Proposals. Approval to release the RFP will be sought at the December Board meeting. She noted the Committee has spent a lot of time discussing the best way to target the limited funding.

Ms. Hendrix stated a celebration was held last week for the summer youth providers and future events will include invitations to employers and potential providers for the program. Ms. Mattick stated that each year a success story is provided by each provider and submitted to the New York Association of Training and Employment Professionals for their website. This helps with advocacy efforts for the program.

Mr. Forrest stated that the My Brother's Keeper Program is partnering with the Ithaca City of School District and targets young men of color. The program is still in the infancy stages but shows promise.

## **Governance and Membership Committee**

Mr. Stamm reported the Committee has not met, but will be in the coming months to look at a couple of vacancies on the Board.

## **One Stop Operations and Oversight Committee**

Mr. Bishop was not in attendance.

## **Services to Individuals with Disabilities Committee**

Mr. Matteson was not in attendance.

## **Other**

There was brief discussion about the number of construction projects that are underway in the County. Mr. Stamm stated there are several large scale projects underway downtown and he expects there will be more projects starting in Collegetown. He noted that if Lansing had adequate natural gas capacity, there would be more projects there as well. He stated the Chainworks project is moving forward with preliminary site work.

Ms. Dillon stated Tompkins Community Action is beginning a childcare and housing project at their main location. The project will begin in December. Mr. Burrows noted Cornell is developing additional housing for students.

Ms. Tavares stated the Chamber will have on the job training dollars available in 2018. The funding for 2017 has been fully expended. To date, several not-for-profits and small businesses have utilized the program. The funding can be used for both incumbent workers and new hires.

Ms. Mattick stated OJT funds are also available through the One Stop Center.

## **Childcare and Workforce Challenges**

Sue Dale-Hall, Executive Officer of the Child Development Council gave a presentation on childcare and the challenges experienced by individuals and families in the workforce. There are roughly 10,000 children in Tompkins County under the age of 10 with 6900 of those youth in working households. There are 3000 child care spaces and a gap of 1200 preschool and 3000 school age children without care. The cost of full-time care can be anywhere from \$9100 to \$13,000 annually. The costs combined with housing and other needs often make working impossible.

When families were surveyed about their non-participation in the workforce, three things stood out. Either the choice is based on personal values, infant care either isn't available or is cost prohibitive, or the cost of daycare surpasses income potential.

Things that can be done now and in the future to help meet the demand for childcare include involving the appropriate parties when there are discussions about housing development projects and creating standardized work schedules that work with public transportation options. For a copy of Ms. Dale-Hall's complete presentation, please contact the WFDB office.

## **Other Business**

None

## **Unfinished Business**

None

## **Adjournment**

It was Moved by Mr. Levesque, seconded by Mr. Stamm and unanimously adopted by voice vote of December 12, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. in the Borg Warner Room at the Tompkins County Public Library.

Minutes prepared by Jennifer Luu.