

**MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY MEETING**

**OF THE**

**YONKERS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

**Held on March 17, 2021**

Virtual GoToMeeting

**Board Members Present: Board Members Excused: WDB Staff Present:**

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| William Mascetta  Lamont Badru  Sara Brody  Rev. Dr Carl Bruce  Nicholas D’Angelo  Frank DeSantis  Taryn Duffy  Ramona Fuentes  Gina Gaines  Charlie Knight  Bonnie Reyna  Felderi Santiago  Atul Sheffey  Camille Valentine | Anthony Ascencao  Laurel Birkett  Mark Corpas  Churchill Egone  Kris Komorowski  Linda Heyward  Ross Pepe  Donald Quadrino  Amir Rabadi  Ramon Rodriguez  Masha Turchinsky | Sean McGrail, Executive Director George Varkey, Fiscal Office  Chanele Harris, Executive Assistant  **Career Center Staff:**  Linda Patterson, Youth Services |

1. **Welcome - Call to Order**

Mr. Mascetta called the meeting to order at 10:00am. Mr. Mascetta opened the floor for introductions.

1. **Acceptance of Minutes**

The minutes of the December 9, 2020 Board meeting were emailed in advance to Board members.

Mr. Mascetta announced a motion to accept the December 9, 2020 meeting minutes. Ms. Brody made a motion to accept the December 9, 2020 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Rev. Dr. Bruce and was then unanimously approved as submitted.

1. **Workforce Development Update**

**Executive Director, Mr. Sean McGrail**

Mr. McGrail discussed the private sector job loss of 76,000 in hospitality, leisure and restaurants. The unemployment rate is 8.6 or 8,200 down 10%. Westchester County unemployment rate pre-pandemic was 4% or 4,400 in Yonkers. The New York State Department of Labor has an approximate a timeline to open the Yonkers Career Center in September or October. New York State Department of Labor Career Center staff are working on Unemployment Insurance issues. Pre-pandemic there were 500,00 people in the system currently there are 5.2 million in the system. Workforce staff have 64 Individual Training Accounts and 61 On-the-Job Training applications. Business Services is assisting Empress Ambulance with re-training employees. Metrix Skill Up Yonkers has 819 active accounts. During the Directors meeting New York State Department of Labor will roll out a Virtual Career Center. We are working on the Local Plan, Board Re-Certification and the Recertification of the Career Center.

**Ms. Harris:** Due to the pandemic, the Summer Youth Employment Program registration is low. Employers are declining participation. Last year, Mayor Spano and the Board of Education assisted with job placement of the Summer Youth participants. I am requesting the same assistance. The Office of Temporary Disability Assistance will release Summer Youth funds when the budget is approved.

**Ms. Duffy:** Is requesting a COVID Plan to reopening.

**Mr. Sheffey:** Mr. Sheffey, the New York State Department of Labor Career Center Manager, informed the Board that New York State Department of Labor (NYSDOL) Career Center staff are continued to be assigned Lower Tier UI cases from Albany to work on daily. There is no reopening date. COVID guidelines will be implemented.

**Ms. Valentine:** The American Sugar Refining, Inc. is requesting assistance with filling 10 open positions.

**Ms. Brody:** The Yonkers Downtown BID is requesting assistance to hire two rangers.

Mr. McGrail will forward job assistance information to the Business Service Liaison.

1. **Voting Items**

Mr. Mascetta announced a resolution to combine and accept all budgets into one vote.

* PY2020 Budget 07/01/2020 - 06/30/2021
* PY2020 Proposed Budget by Program 07/01/2020 - 06/30/2021
* FY2021 Budget to Actual

Mr. Mascetta announced a motion to combine and accept all budgets into one vote. Ms. Brody made a motion to combine and accept all budgets into one vote. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gaines and was then unanimously approved as submitted.

Mr. Mascetta announced a resolution to accept the Extension of the Year Round Youth Contracts, due to the pandemic, noting that the program is fiscally sound and guidance is being provided.

**Mr. McGrail:** There will be an RFP for next Year Round Program.

Mr. Mascetta announced a motion to accept the Extension of the Year Round Youth Contracts, due to the pandemic, noting that the programs are fiscally sound and guidance is being provided. Ms. Brody made a motion to accept the Extension of the Year Round Youth Contracts, due to the pandemic, noting that the programs are fiscally sound and guidance is being provided. The motion was seconded by Ms. Valentine and was then unanimously approved as submitted.

1. **Fiscal Update**

**Fiscal Officer, George Varkey**

Mr. Varkey discussed the PY2020 Budget 07/01/2020 - 06/30/2021, PY2020 Proposed Budget by Program 07/01/2020 - 06/30/2021 and the FY2021 Budget to Actual. Workforce received NEWD Grant $154,000 with $139,000 going to programs and 10% for supplies (laptops).

1. **Operations and Programs Report**

**Youth Services Coordinator - Linda Patterson**

Ms. Patterson discussed the Year Round Program vendor progress WestCOP has 32 participants and Greyston has 31 participants enrolled. WestCOP and Greyston must meet their goal of 40 youth by March 31, 2021. WestCOP and Greyston must have 40 new participants for the July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022 with the Extension Contract. WestCOP and Greyston must complete one year follow up with each contract.

Mr. McGrail announced motion to adjourn meeting. Ms. Valentine made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Duffy made second motion to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 11:55 AM.