



**MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY MEETING
OF THE
YONKERS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Held on January 27, 2023**

Virtual Zoom Meeting

Board Members Present:

William Mascetta
Anthony Ascencao
Sara Brody
Don Brown
Nicholas D’Angelo
Churchill Egone
Ramona Fuentes
Gina Gaines
Reginald Joseph Jr.
Charlie Knight
Kris Komorowski
Susan Naber
Atul Sheffey
Masha Turchinsky
Camille Valentin

Excused Board Members:

Laurel Birkett
Dr Carl Bruce
Mark Corpas
Taryn Duffy
Gina Kinsley
Donald Quadrino
Dr. Amir Rabadi
Felder Santiago

WDB Staff Present:

Sean McGrail, Executive Director
Chanele Harris, Executive Assistant
George Varkey, Fiscal Office

Career Center Staff:

Carol Holman, Career Center Manager
Linda Patterson, Youth Services
Lillian Morales, Business Services Liaison

I. Welcome – Introductions/Roll Call

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

II. Acceptance of Minutes

The October 14, 2022 Board meeting minutes were emailed in advance to Board members.

Mr. Mascetta made a motion to accept the October 14, 2022 meeting minutes. Ms. Valentin made a motion to accept the October 14, 2022 meeting minutes. The motion seconded by Mr. Ascencao and unanimously approved as submitted.

III. Fiscal Update

George Varkey, Fiscal Officer

Mr. Varkey discussed Actual Budget as of December 31, 2022. In line with what we expected in regards to expenses. The biggest changes are obligated expenses with OJT’s and ITA’s that will be claimed. As in the past, we will request a vote to transfer 500K of Dislocated Worker funds to Adults funds.

IV. Career Center Update

Career Center Manager, Mr. Sean McGrail

Mr. McGrail discussed the overview Yonkers Career Center report. Department of Labor is conducting telephone interviews. There are 25 ITA's, 26 OJT's, over 1000 registrants with Metrix Remote Training, 40 Virtual Workshops with New State Department of Labor. The YWCA Gun Violence Prevention Program ends March 31, 2023.

The YWCA has outreached to 1500 youth, registered 295, placed 231 into workforce preparation, placed 174 in training and employed over 150 youth. The YWCA is on target to meeting the goal of the program.

NY SCION is the New York Systems Change & Inclusive Opportunity Network. We are trying to improve participation of individuals with disabilities coming into the systems by assisting them with enhancing their skills and outlook on employment. There is an integrated resource team also assisting the NY SCION registrants.

Mr. McGrail also discussed new initiatives. Y Zone Tech Skills that will connect a free or reduced broad band service and free Chromebook starting with those on unemployment and then open to the public. We are also partnering with Sarah Lawrence Community Engagement to offer presentations on employment and Workforce development issues. Sarah Lawrence students will do internships at the Yonkers Career Center. NYSDOL oversees the Canvas Employment Education (CEED) Program. There will be a new CEED intern working at the Yonkers Career Center to provide assistance in the new and emerging cannabis industry.

VI. Business Service Update

Lillian Morales, Business Service Liaison

Ms. Morales discussed 3rd quarter of PY2022. The 26 On-the Job Training contracts (OJT) that will end the second and third quarter of PY22. Ms. Morales is focusing on identifying new employers to expend funds.

VII. Youth Services Update

Youth Services Coordinator, Linda Patterson

Ms. Patterson discussed the struggles with YCAP and YWCA in regards to the American One Stop Operating System (AOSOS). AOSOS is the NYSDOL operating system. Ms. Patterson provided one on one instructions, AOSOS data entry guide books and extended herself to the contractors when needed. Contractors have not met their contracted numbers in the first two quarters and they are still struggling in the third quarter.

Mr. Mascetta: Is the inability to reach number more a data issue or real issue as far as participants?

Ms. Patterson: One is a number issue and both are AOSOS issues. AOSOS is a complex system. Testing and Career Zone benchmarks have not been met. There are benchmarks per quarter that must be met.

Mr. Mascetta: Is informing the Workforce staff to send a notice to contractors, under the provisions of the contract, there will be a mandatory meeting to troubleshoot AOSOS instructions and discuss parameters of their contract.

VIII. New Business

Mr. Mascetta discussed industry curriculum, advanced manufacturing and is requesting a follow-up on Empress.

Ms. Morales: provided an update regarding Empress.

Ms. Naber: discussed 16 new State Approved programs in the Yonkers High Schools.

Ms. Turchinsky: discussed the services, events, partnerships and new wing of the Hudson River Museum.

Mr. Mascetta made a motion to adjourn meeting. Mr. Komorowski made a motion to adjourn. Mr. D'Angelo made second motion to adjourn.
Meeting adjourned at 10:55 AM.