

EDUCATION & ADULT PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MINUTES
October 15, 2009

I. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

George Kovtun
Jennie Tunnell
John Bozymowski
Gary Polulak
Ken Austin

MEMBERS ABSENT

Dave Brandt
Mike Moran

OTHERS PRESENT

John Bierbusse
Linda McLatcher
Marsha Prose

Mr. Kovtun called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2009 EDUCATION & ADULT PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MINUTES

JOHN BOZYMOWSKI MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2009 AS PRESENTED; SUPPORT BY JENNIE TUNNELL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT (WIA)

a. Recommendation to Approve PY'09 Demand Occupation List

Typically the demand occupation list is presented to the board for approval in May or June. However, this year the process was delayed while awaiting publication by the State of Michigan of the Annual Planning Information Report where the long-term projection of growth and wage information is derived. Eighteen new occupations were added to the local list along with a definition of green jobs. The criteria for the list requires at a minimum an 11% growth and 50 or more openings or a positive change and at least 100 openings in the Detroit metropolitan area and the occupation must provide an hourly wage of at least \$12.69. It is the board's responsibility to approve and publish the local area demand occupations.

After review and discussion, **GARY POLULAK MOVED TO APPROVE THE PY'09 DEMAND OCCUPATION LIST AS PRESENTED AND TO FORWARD TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR FINAL APPROVAL; SUPPORT BY JOHN BOZYMOWSKI. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

b. Recommendation on Services for White Collar Customers

In June the board approved submission to the State for an additional \$962,300 of Wagner-Peyser Recovery Act funds to provide enhanced employment services. Staff released a request for proposal to address the needs of unemployed white collar customers, many of whom are displaced due to the decline in the auto industry and who may require different services than the usual population obtaining Michigan Works services. As a result of the solicitation, eight responses were received. Three proposals were not evaluated beyond the preliminary review as they did not address the criteria within the RFP.

Of the remaining five, two were recommended contingent upon successfully negotiated costs. Connecting 4 Purpose would like to provide 2-day workshops providing peer-to-peer networking and opportunities. This proposer has provided similar services through the Oakland County MWA with good feedback. The Working Habitat Group is primarily geared toward engineers, designers, analysts and architects to assist in obtaining employment or becoming entrepreneurs.

After review and discussion, **JOHN BOZYMOWSKI MOVED TO PROCEED WITH CONTRACT NEGOTIATION WITH THE TWO SERVICES PROVIDERS FOR SERVICES TO WHITE COLLAR CUSTOMERS AND TO FORWARD TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR FINAL APPROVAL; SUPPORT BY JENNIE TUNNELL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

c. Plant Closure Report

One closure was reported. Visioneering Inc. in Fraser will be laying off 12 full-time employees effective

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October 15th. A worker orientation is being conducted the same day.

Trade certification was received by Mold Rite Tool, Inc. in Fraser; Dietech North America in Roseville; Future Die Cast & Engineering in Shelby Township; and Enterprise Automotive in St. Clair Shores. Trade orientations are being scheduled for all.

IV. JOBS, EDUCATION & TRAINING (JET)

a. Program Update

Funding for the new fiscal year has been delayed until the State budget is balanced and dollars are appropriated. Staff anticipates a significant cut in the program.

Ms. Prose reported that the State predicts from September through January that over 2,000 people in Macomb and St. Clair counties will exhaust their unemployment benefits. Many are expected to apply for cash welfare assistance and could then be referred to the Michigan Works JET program. The program will be modified to serve these individuals by incorporating a professional job club model. These customers will be required to meet once weekly with staff for roundtable discussions, information sharing, peer support, and job search activities. An emphasis will be placed on networking strategies, transferable skills, customized techniques for resumes and cover letters, job search techniques, portfolio creation and web search engines.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Bierbusse announced that the State of Michigan applied for and received National Emergency Grant funds through a competitive nationwide bid. The request was for \$32 million; the State received \$18.5. The local allocation is \$1,039,181 with additional requests allowed upon expenditure of initial funds. Mr. Bierbusse anticipates requesting further funds by March 2010. Once the policy issuance is received, a plan will be drafted for committee review.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

JOHN BOZYMOWSKI MOVED TO ADJOURN; SUPPORT BY JENNIE TUNNELL. MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Carne
Recording Secretary