

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 2, 2016

8:15 A.M.

HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING ANNEX

PRESENT: D. Burrows, M. Stamm, M. Stazi, A. Hendrix, J. Matteson, S. Pronti

EXCUSED: L. Patz, A. Bishop, J. Mareane

STAFF: J. Mattick

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Burrows called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was Moved by Mr. Pront, seconded by Mr. Matteson and adopted by voice vote to approve the minutes of January 5, 2016.

DECEMBER FISCAL REPORTS – WDB AND OFFICE OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

Ms. Mattick reviewed the fiscal reports with the group. Expenses and revenue are on track. Ms. Mattick provided an update on the router installation project.

SYEP FISCAL MONITORING UPDATE

Ms. Mattick provided an update on SYEP Fiscal Monitoring of subcontractors. Ms. Mattick stated that she conducted the fiscal monitoring in January of the last of the three SYEP contractors. Ms. Mattick noted that there were significant issues regarding participant timesheets as well as methods of allocating out costs to the SYEP funding source. Ms. Mattick required that the contractor make immediate changes (with the next payroll) to any discrepancies found. Ms. Mattick discussed this at length with the Youth Oversight Committee and they have directed Ms. Mattick to conduct further fiscal monitoring of participant payroll to ensure that the problem is not repeated in additional participant payrolls.

PERMISSIONS TO RELEASE SYEP REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

It was Moved by Mr. Matteson, seconded by M. Pronti and adopted by voice vote to approve the release of the 2016 SYEP Request for Proposals.

JANUARY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING FOLLOW UP

Mr. Burrows stated that based on Executive Committee and Board feedback it appeared that the areas to focus on in 2016 were:

1. Decreasing Poverty
2. Underemployment and Labor Force Participation with its underlying causes
 - Quality of Life Decision
 - Child Care
 - Transportation
3. Advocacy and Education – Including educating young adults, professionals regarding the great job opportunities here
4. Growth Industries – Telling the story

The group discussed each of the four items and there was consensus that research characterizing who the “not in the labor force”, unemployed and underemployed were would be helpful. It was noted that it is critical that individuals have the entry level skill sets needed for employment and that training opportunities

exist and that the community needs a solid foundation and services to support the larger employers such as Cornell, Borg Warner and Ithaca College.

Long-term unemployed vs. those who are choosing to not participate in the workforce need to be viewed separately. Why is a segment of the population actively choosing not to enter the workforce? Are there contributing factors that keep them out of the workforce and/or under employed. Things to consider that could be contributing factors include healthcare or childcare costs, individuals receiving SSI/SDI, language barriers, criminal history, trailing spouses, etc. Are younger people being overlooked for older workers? More needs to be known about what it is needed to engage or reengage people in the workforce.

Ms. Hendrix stated that the population being discussed needs to be defined. Perhaps an analysis of DSS caseloads would provide insight. In addition, she stated that an analysis of the unemployed, underemployed and not in the labor force might be helpful to other agencies as well.

The group also discussed individuals who are choosing to leave the area. Are they leaving due to economic opportunities, lack of social engagement opportunities, etc., and what are employers doing to recruit and retain individuals in their businesses. What is the community doing to advocate and educate young adults about the great job opportunities in this area. There was consensus that a workgroup should be developed to roll out a planning study and this will be discussed at future meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

It was Moved by Mr. Matteson, seconded by Mr. Mareane, and unanimously adopted by voice vote of members present to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for March 1, 2016 at 8:15 a.m. the Human Services Annex. *The meeting was subsequently canceled.*