

DWDB Minutes – November 15, 2012

The following provision under Section IV of the Durham Workforce Development Board Bylaws states:

“All Board and Committee meetings shall be open to the public, except in cases specifically outlined in the North Carolina Public Records Act. All public comments shall be at the discretion of the Board Chair and be limited up to three minutes per action item”

Under the discretion of the Board Chair, public comment shall be received at the beginning of each official meeting of the Durham Workforce Development Board. The public will be required to submit a notice in writing to the Board Chair on each action item in which they are requesting to provide comment on”



Durham Workforce Development Board Meeting
November 15, 2012 Meeting Minutes
The Historic Parrish Street Forum, 108 W. Parrish Street, Durham, NC 27701
8:30am – 10:00am

DWDB Members Present: Steven Williams, Autrice Campbell Long, Brenda Howerton, Chip Wood, Diane White (Proxy-Del Mattioli), Donald Hughes, George Hining, Gerald Spence, Iheoma Iruka, John Martin, John Rodriguez, Li-An Yeh, Marilyn Rochelle

DWDB Staff Present: Kevin Dick, Nicholas McCoy, Pheon Alston, Alexia Forte, Esther Coleman, Jason Wimmer, Darrell Solomon, Peter Coyle

Visitors Present: Tanya Dingle, Drew Cummings

Welcome and Call to Order

Steven Williams, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:46 a.m.

Approval of Minutes from the September 27, 2012 DWDB Meeting

Motion by Brenda Howerton, second by Iheoma Iruka, the DWDB approved the minutes from the September 27, 2012 meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Updates from Chair – Steven Williams stated that he will be issuing a “board member challenge” at the next scheduled meeting that will be calling on DWDB members and representative companies to increase their overall usage of the JobLink system in 2013, and to further support JobLink efforts to increase opportunities for youth, adults, ex-offenders etc. to gain employment.

Updates from the Director – Kevin Dick announced that Duke recruitment will continue on Thursdays at the Northgate JobLink location (actively recruiting for open positions) and that Cree will be working with the JobLink to initiate a three day recruitment effort to identify candidates for 70 positions starting on November 26th through 28th.

Kevin also announced that 21C produced 125 jobs.

Kevin further announced that the Holiday Inn will be converting to student housing between NCCU and Duke.

Brenda Howerton asked if Cree is looking elsewhere to hire. Kevin responded that they will be using JobLink as their primary source of recruitment. Steven Williams asked about the salary ranges and it was stated that the average salary is \$11.70 – hiring through an agency (temp to perm). Nicholas McCoy

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stated that Cree will not accept felons but will accept misdemeanors and that Cree is also looking for veterans.

Kevin Dick introduced Diane White who was serving as Proxy for Del Mattioli.

REPORT ITEMS

2. Financial/Performance Reports (thru September 30, 2012)

Kevin Dick provided an update on the financial/performance reports on WIA Adult/Dislocated Worker, Youth, and Ex-Offender JobLink programs focusing on revenue, investments and outcomes. Kevin mentioned that staff is planning on applying for the Youth Build Grant in December 2012 and reapplying for the H1B Program (funding used to train US workers) in late 2012 or early 2013.

Brenda Howerton asked what organizations we are working with for the Ex-Offenders. It was stated that (in addition to the two in-house staff operating out of JobLink) we are working with organizations such as InStepp, DERC and Criminal Justice Resource Center. Donald Hughes asked do we have the total number of ex-offenders who are seeking employment. Kevin responded that the JobLink provides services to 150/year. Nicholas stated that we recently pulled a report on the number of offenders returning to Durham County and that we will share this with the board.

George Hining asked if these were clients with misdemeanors or felons. Nick stated that we serve ex-offenders (felons, misdemeanors, etc.) who have either been released and/or on parole in the last year.

Donald Hughes asked what types of target efforts are in place to work with these companies to hire ex-offenders. Kevin stated that there is a coordinated and ongoing job development through the JobLink to increase employment opportunities within local companies.

PRESENTATION

Profile of the Unemployed

Nicholas McCoy and Jason Wimmer presented to the DWDB the *Profile of the Unemployed*. Jason highlighted numerous characteristics of the unemployed demographic (i.e. sex, the unemployed by race, population by age, and Durham educational attainment). Donald Hughes was concerned about the demographic regarding race and requested that the DWDB do a better job at providing employment and training resources targeted for African American jobseekers.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Update on IBM and MDC Recommendations on Disconnected Youth

Iheoma Iruka provided the DWDB with an update on the IBM and MDC recommendations on Disconnected Youth. It was stated that on October 23, 2012, DWDB representatives attended a meeting of the Durham local *Leadership Group* (consisting of leadership from the County, City and Public Schools). Iheoma stated that the group has been considering the recommendations from the *IBM Smarter Cities* project on youth opportunity, and was considering specific recommendations made by the DWDB Youth Task Force regarding this report. DWDB representatives who attended this meeting provided a report-out on this meeting and stated that the Task Force will reconvene in the next two-months to further assess the recommendations and/or next steps related to the DWDB involvement in furthering the efforts of the IBM and MDC Report recommendations.

2. Manchester Bidwell Training Center Tour

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Due to time, it was decided that Steven Williams will report on the Manchester Bidwell tour at a later date.

3. **Youth Summer Employment**

Kevin Dick provided an overview of the Summer Youth employment efforts over the past three years. Kevin mentioned that the summer youth program is funded on an annual basis. Kevin mentioned that the Summer Youth Program will be included as part of a board member challenge as well for 2013; to further connecting apprenticeships, internships to long term employment opportunities for Durham youth.

Steven Williams adjourned the meeting at 10:10 a.m.