

Minutes

Workforce Development Board
March 17, 2009
12:15 p.m.
Baker College/The Meeting Place

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Muskegon/Oceana Consortium Workforce Development Board was called to order by Chair, Sherry White, at 12:47 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Mary Ann Herbst, Char Holloway, William Lowry, Robert Moritz, Tom O'Brien, Christine Robere, Wendi Rudholm, Lisa Stafford, and Sherry White

Members Excused: Bessie Aaron, John Arnoldi, Judy Bosma, Louis Churchwell, Ed Garner, Vicky Hilliard, Dave Johnson, Jane Johnson, Russell Kopp, Mark Mangione, Steven Meyers, Bobbi Spence and Lisa Velez

Also Present: Dick Carlson-GWIWDC, Valarie Thompson-WLWDC, Janice Knox-Williams, Patrese Watson, Judy Greer-HTSWDC, Latosha Walker-HTSWDC Participant, Dee Carlson-MTEC, Irais Sikkenga, Erin Kenny and Shiray L. Watson-DET

III. MINUTES:

-WDB-08-22-It was moved by William Lowry, supported by Wendi Rudholm, to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2009, Muskegon/Oceana Consortium's Workforce Development Board meeting, as presented.

Motion Carried.

IV. CHAIR'S REPORT:

- Ms. Sherry White introduced Ms. Janice Knox-Williams, Director, Muskegon Heights Workforce Development Center (HTSWDC). Before introducing the participant, the case manager, Patrese Watson, gave a brief history on the experiences Latosha Walker had working with HTSWDC.

Ms. Latosha Walker stated that her initial contact with HTSWDC came in 2005. Ms. Walker stated that Janice and Patrese were always supportive and were like mentors to her. The staff at HTSWDC helped her with transportation, car repair, work clothes and auto insurance. Latosha stated that she would walk to the center almost every day posting her resume and searching for jobs. She was able to obtain a part-time position with Fifth Third Bank as a teller and was there for a short period of time. After ending her employment with Fifth Third Bank, Latosha started working as an Early Childhood Instructor with Grace Christian Care Center. That position was also for a short period of time. Latosha stated she was always able to find a job, just nothing long-term. In 2007, she returned to the Muskegon Heights WDC more mature and more focused on finding a career. Latosha was hired as a sales associate with Verizon in the Lakes Mall, where she is now assistant manager. Ms. Walker announced that Verizon would be hiring soon and any one interested could stop in the Verizon store. She thanked Michigan Works!, Janice Knox-Williams, Patrese Watson, and the staff at the Muskegon Heights WDC for the programs and all the help they extended to her.

V. MICHIGAN PRISON REENTRY INITIATIVE (MPRI) REPORT:

- Received, as information, a copy of the most recent Participant Activity and Financial Report data for the Michigan Prison ReEntry Initiative (MPRI).

VI. OJT COMMITTEE REPORT:

- Received the Voucher Funding Analysis reflecting activity through March 2009, WDB approvals.

- March Classroom Voucher Training requests for \$26,699.50, were presented for approval.

-WDB-08-23-It was moved by Bob Moritz, supported by William Lowry, to approve the March Classroom Training Voucher Requests based upon the availability of funds.

Motion Carried.

-WDB-08-24-It was moved by Bob Moritz, supported by Char Holloway, to approve the following requests for OJT positions, not to exceed \$33,420.30, based upon the availability of funds:

<u>EMPLOYER</u>		<u>OCCUPATION</u>	<u>COST</u>
ABC Distributors	1	Inspection/Pack/Ship	1,855.00

Day Spring, Inc.	1	Personal Care Asst.	2,000.00
Getty St. Grill	1	Dishwasher	492.10
	1	Hostess	492.10
Gordon Painting/Pressure Wash	1	Painting/Aireless Opr.	2,000.00
L-3 Communications	1	Machinist	2,000.00
	1	Engineering Rec Coord.	2,000.00
	1	Assembler	2,000.00
Lakeshore Physical Therapy	1	Front Desk Supp. Staff	2,000.00
SAF-Holland	1	Wire Welder	2,000.00
	1	Assembler	2,000.00
Shellcast, Inc.	<u>1</u>	Welder	<u>1,856.00</u>
	12		20,695.20
			(w/cap)

Motion Carried.

VII. UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:

- None.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS:

- Erin gave a brief update on the recovery of Paul E. Roy, Jr. and Wendy J. Ohst.

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

- None.

X. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

- William Lowry informed the group of a new MiBiz quarterly publication *The TBL* (Triple Bottom Line); with a new website at www.misustainable.com

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

- There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.