



Board of Directors Meeting
March 27, 2024, at 8:00am
Zoom Virtual Meeting Hartford CT

Attendees: Todd Andrews, David Beber, Maryam Bitar, Matt Hart, Richard McGeary, Fiona Mohring, Phillip Montgomery, Fernando Muniz, Tracy Nixon-Moore, Melissa Otis, Sandy Reis, Lisa Sementelli, Urvashi Shah, Stephen Vaughan, and Dan Weiner.

Staff: Alex Johnson, Sandy Mackie, Tracy Beckley, Martha LaCrosse, Shelly Henderson, and Liz Saunders

Absent: Jennifer DiBella, Denis Horrigan, Krystal Kelly, Keith Grant, Andrew Komarow, Tom Mongellow, John Nimmons, Marcy Reed, Vinnie Valente, and Susan White.

Guest: Yamarie Perez, Sara Moulton, Jeff Auker, and Marty Guay

Chairperson Richard McGeary called the meeting to order at 8:04am

Chairperson McGeary welcomed and thanked everyone for taking the time to join us this morning.

Legislative Update – Alex Johnson

- President Johnson stated that we are diligently reaching out to our state reps in support of our priorities. There are a couple of documents included in your packet which identify those. The first one was prepared by the statewide workforce council identifying that the Dalio Foundation stated that there are 119,000 disconnected or at-risk youth in the state. Last summer 10,000 applied for summer work and statewide we were only able to serve 3,382. We are strongly advocating for the \$10 million funding for summer youth, and we have the promise of support from Matt Ritter. The second document relates to how disbursements are made to the workforce boards statewide. Currently CWP receives thirty-two and five-tenths percent. CTDOL has proposed to modify the funding allocations away from the original statute instead relying on an annual update's formula based on the Lower Living Standard Income Level. This modification is not aligned to the original purpose of CYEP and would inequitably re-direct resources away from high-need communities in the Greater Hartford region. Instead of shuffling funds we should be collectively working toward greater investment into positive youth work-based learning. It was asked what is meant by equitable? President Johnson answered the questions and ended that an equal distribution is not an equitable distribution.
- Tom Mongellow has been helpful in getting us access to individuals at the Capitol who can help us.

MISSION MOMENT: IT Sector Initiatives/Partnership – Sandy Mackie/Martha LaCrosse/Shelly Henderson

Sandy Mackie, the Chief Program Officer, Shelly Henderson, Manager of One Stop Services, and Martha LaCrosse, IT Business Partnership Lead presented this report. Sandy gave a brief introduction on how our Capital system works together to support this in-demand industry. Martha LaCrosse went over entry level postings, total job postings, key takeaways, she spoke on the averages entry level salary range and education requirements, skills, qualifications, the Regional Sector Partnerships, our key employers, and public partners, the three workgroups Earn & learn, Industry-Curricula Alignment and Retention. Shelly spoke about the Tech talent Grant overview which included dates, goals, results, providers, support services, participant profiles, outcomes and employments, Best Practices what to keep doing, things to start doing, and forward-looking strategies. We had two guest speakers; Jeff Auker from Infosys and Marty Guay from Stanley Black & Decker who spoke on their work with the partnership and the extraordinary efforts it has taken but well worth it. There was a tech talent participant who was supposed to speak but could not be with us due to a medical situation. Sandy will forward his story.

Consent Agenda:

- Approve January 31, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Outcome: Sandy Reis made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Stephen Vaughan offered a second. All were in favor; none opposed; the motion carried.



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Committee Updates:

Finance Report: Stephen Vaughan & Tracy Beckley

Approve the 6-month Financials.

- Chairperson McGeary stated that he would like to see an annual session to help CWP Board members better understand our financials.
- Stephen gave a quick recap of all the financial reports.
- Stephen reviewed and presented the 6-month financials to the committee. Stephen stated that these were updated copies as the Finance & Audit committee requested a few changes to the reports be made into two showing variances from year over year and year over previous years. A legend was added to the CWP Fiscal year colored graph to identify what each of the funding sources represents.
- Chairperson McGeary asked if we have done an analysis on how we would operate without all the grants we receive. President Johnson stated that we are reliant on the grants we receive to do the business that we do. He suggested that a worthwhile conversation would be what if we only received the entitlement funds. Chairperson McGeary then asked if we have thought about ways to develop a rainy-day fund, contemplating a start-up business that gives a steady stream of income. President Johnson responded that we had started some conversations, and he would create a report on what we had put together. Perhaps review at an upcoming Board meeting.
- President Johnson thanked Chairperson Vaughan for his phenomenal work with the F&A Committee.

Outcome: Matt Hart made a motion to accept the 6-month Financials as presented, Fiona Mohring offered a second. All were in favor, none opposed; the motion carried.

Governance Committee – Bylaws update - Alex Johnson

President Johnson stated that the by-laws are in the process of being updated adding wording to enable the Board to be able to waive the term limits. We will present those changes at the May Board meeting.

Survey Results/Response – President Johnson asked to have this topic tabled until the next meeting due to the importance of the subject, feedback with the board and time constraints. Everyone was agreeable.

President/CEO Report: Alex Johnson

WIOA Plan Update

- In alignment with the federal legislation and the CT Office of Workforce Strategy and the CT DOL CWP is developing their WIOA Local Plan for the next four years. This plan will build on the previous plan and provide an update to CWP's major goals, strategies, policies, and activities related to implementation of WIOA and the regional American Job Center System. President Johnson outlined what the plan components are and the development timeline. In addition, he said we will have an Ad-Hoc committee. Fiona Mohring and Matt Hart both volunteered to be part of that.

CWP Annual Meeting Save the Date

- President Johnson announced that our Annual Meeting will be held on Friday June 21, 2024, at the Hartford Marriott on Columbus Blvd. he welcomed everyone to attend.

CWP 3rd Annual Golf Tournament

- **September 5, 2024, at Keney Park Golf Course**

ADJOURN

Chairperson McGeary called for a motion to adjourn at 9:35am. Fiona Mohring made the motion which was seconded by Matt Hart. All were in favor; none opposed; the motion carried. Our next meeting is scheduled for May 29, 2024.