Worcester Jobs Fund Oversight Committee Sept. 9, 2015 10:00am CMWIB Office; 44 Front Street, Worcester Meeting Notes

Attendance: Leonard Cooper, Jeffrey Turgeon, Leo Miller, Dania Flores, David Minasian, Janice Weekes, Frank Kartheiser Guest: Robert Thomas, Paul Morano

- L. Cooper called announced that there was a quorum present and called the meeting to order.
- P. Morano updated the committee regarding the status of several City development projects, including the former El Morocco restaurant suite (Wall St.), the former Duddie dealership on park Ave., and the biotech lab near Plantation Street.
- The Committee then discussed the status of the WJF Director; J. Turgeon noted that the previous procurement was ruled invalid due to City concerns of the position being a contracted position and not a staff position and the RFP process used not conforming to City policies. J. Turgeon apologized for this error and the relative pros and cons to either going back out to bid with a revised RFP or advertising and hiring a staff position were discussed. Upon a motion by D. Minasian and seconded by J. Turgeon, the committee voted unanimously to utilize a staff position and authorized J. Turgeon to draft a job description for the committee to review.
- D. Minasian then discussed the Federal and State Dept. of Transportation projects & the potential for pre-apprenticeship training grants in Worcester. He is meeting with MA DOT officials later in the week and will be working with J. Turgeon and others to pursue this opportunity. R. Thomas noted that this was the project that he had worked on while at the MLK, Jr. Business Empowerment Center/SMOC and wondered if the preapprentice program proposed for the project was still considered active.
- J. Turgeon announced the developer for the two area hotels, Pro-Con, had reached out to him and he will be having a conference call with them and J. Weekes to discuss potential next steps.

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