

**JACKSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL**

**RESEARCH DIVISION**

**Task Force on Safety and Crime Reduction**

**Workforce Training Subcommittee Meeting Minutes**

**March 21, 2019**

**10:30 am**

**Committee Room B**

**First Floor, City Hall**

**117 W. Duval Street**

Chair: Tom Geismar

Ricky Brown

Marian Hannah

Carolyn Herman

Ceil Pillsbury-Schellenberg

Shamika Wright

Jennifer Blaylock, Subject Matter Expert- Excused

**Topic:** Task Force on Safety and Crime Reduction – Workforce Training Subcommittee

**Attendance:** Colleen Hampsey – Council Research; Crystal Shemwell, Jessica Smith and Carol Owens – Legislative Services; Chiquita Moore – Mayor’s Office; Charles Moreland - Director of Community Affairs

For all other attendees please see the sign in sheet

**Meeting Convened:** 10:34 am

This was the fourth meeting for the Workforce Training Subcommittee. Chairperson Tom Geismar welcomed the group, called for introductions and the members approved the minutes from the previous meeting. Several members then presented their findings from organizational interviews. Ricky Brown shared information about Job Corps, the Workforce Industrial Training facility and the JFRD Apprenticeship and Explorers programs. Job Corps is a federal program which offers free-of-charge education and vocational training to young men and women ages 16 to 24 who do not have felony criminal records. Workforce Industrial Training offers training in areas related to hazardous materials clean-up, hazardous waste management, emergency or disaster response preparedness, infectious disease, and combines both academic classroom and hands-on training instruction, all of which is oriented towards a career in the industrial industry. It is a relatively new organization with a small rented space for instruction. James Coleman is the lead instructor and, per the interview with Mr. Brown, stated that program costs, educational attainment and transportation present the largest barriers to access for clients. It was mentioned by the subcommittee members that one option for recommendations to the Task Force may be to assist small and fledgling nonprofits with business operations (accounting, marketing, taxes). Ms. Wright added that there are existing programs (UNF, JAXChamber) which assist nonprofits and small businesses with these activities at no cost.

The JFRD Apprenticeship and Explorers programs offer varying degrees of age appropriate firefighter training. Charles Moreland, Director of Community Affairs, was in attendance to provide more details about the programs. The JFRD Apprentice program is available to youth 17-21 years old living in specific zip codes, and includes course work at FSCJ leading to EMT and firefighter certification. The JFRD Explorer program is geared towards youth aged 14-20 and includes mentoring.

Marilyn Hannah interviewed staff from Redemption Church, Goodwill Industries and Catholic Charities. Redemption Church offers intermittent job training classes and is funded through donations. Goodwill provides training in soft skills and industry skills. Catholic Charities holds classes for women transitioning into careers, with resume and interview help. Mr. Geismar spoke with a representative from DCPS who described various vocational programs which are available to current students. Ms. Herman shared some background about City Rescue Mission, a faith based organization which provides life skills and training, and the New Horizon Training Center which has classes for IT certification.

Before adjourning the meeting, the Chair announced that the next Workforce Training Subcommittee meeting will be on March 28, 2019 at 10:30 am.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 12:10 pm

Minutes: Colleen Hampsey, Council Research

CHampsey @coj.net (904) 630-1498

Posted 3.25.19 5:00 pm

Tape: Task Force on Safety and Crime Reduction Workforce Training Subcommittee -Legislative Services Division 3.21.19