WORKFORCE INVESTMENT SAN FRANCISCO
Local Workforce Investment Board for the City and County of San Francisco
Draft Minutes of The
March 1, 2023
Meeting of the Workforce Investment San Francisco (WISF)
War Memorial Veterans Building, Green Room, 2nd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102

WISF Members Present
Jeanine Cotter, Acting Chair, Luminalt Solar
Edward Battista, Sutter Health
Jorge Tapia, CA EDD
Julie Fallon, Marriott
Kim Tavaglione, SF Labor Council
Laurie Thomas, Golden Gate Restaurant Association
Lynn Mahoney, SFSU
Meghan Mitchell, San Francisco Standard
Safiya Miller, Microsoft Corp

Sam Rodriguez, Rodriguez Strategic Partners, LLC
Theresa Woo, CA Dept. of Rehabilitation
Tony Delorio, Local Union No. 665
Vikrum Aiyer, ACLU
Ramon Hernandez, Laborers Local 261

WISF Members Absent
Michon Coleman, Hospital Council of Northern & Central California
Charley Lavery, Operating Engineers Local 3
Cynthia Gomez, UNITE HERE Local 2
John Doherty, IBEW Local 6
Lori Dunn-Guion, Swinerton
Angela Tamayo, SEIU-UHW

Rafael Mandelman, San Francisco Board of Supervisors
Shanell Williams, City College Board of Trustees
Shamann Walton, San Francisco Board of Supervisors

Ohlone Land Acknowledgement, Announcements & Housekeeping (Discussion Item)
Secretary Iris Rollins (OEWD) opened the meeting by reciting the Ohlone Land Acknowledgement and informing the public that WISF would conduct a swearing-in before starting the meeting. Mayor’s Liaison to Boards and Commissions Tyra Fennell swore in the Workforce Investment San Francisco (WISF) members.

Roll Call (Discussion Item)
Jeanine Cotter, Acting Chair of WISF, introduced herself, called the meeting to order at 9:16 AM. Secretary Rollins conducted roll call and announced that a quorum was present.

Chair’s Welcome (Discussion Item)
Acting Chair Cotter thanked WISF members and the general public for attending the hybrid WISF meeting at the War Memorial Green Room and remotely on Zoom.

Adoption of the Agenda (Action Item)
Acting Chair Cotter directed WISF members to review the agenda. Next, Acting Chair Cotter solicited comments from WISF members. Seeing none, Acting Chair Cotter asked for a motion to adopt the meeting agenda. Member Tavaglione made the motion, which was seconded by Member Rodriguez and passed unanimously.
Approval of Minutes from December 13, 2022 Meeting (Action Item)

Acting Chair Cotter directed WISF members to review the December 13, 2022 meeting minutes. Next, Acting Chair Cotter solicited comments from WISF members. Seeing none, Acting Chair Cotter asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the December 13, 2022, meeting. Member Woo made the motion which was seconded by Member Tavaglione and passed unanimously.

Executive Director’s Report (Discussion Item)

Acting Chair Cotter introduced the San Francisco Office of Economic and Workforce Development (OEWD) Manager of Economic Recovery and Regeneration, Jacob Bintliff. Mr. Bintliff presented Mayor Breed’s Roadmap to Downtown San Francisco’s Future. Mr. Bintliff explained that office attendance, office vacancy rates, BART exits, air travel, and hotel stays are still below pre-pandemic levels, which impacts the tax base. Mayor Breed’s Roadmap to Downtown San Francisco’s Future [https://sf.gov/roadmap-downtown-san-franciscos-future](https://sf.gov/roadmap-downtown-san-franciscos-future) is a website that has strategies and initiatives that work towards bringing an economically diverse and resilient job engine downtown. Acting Chair Cotter elicited questions and comments from WISF members.

Member Rodriguez commented on the alignment between the City’s conversion of office space to housing and state legislation for office space conversions. Through the Chair, Mr. Bintliff overviewed that The Local Inclusionary Housing Advisory Committee is meeting with support from the Controller’s Office. They will make recommendations about whether the Inclusionary Housing requirements need to change or be updated to support housing development in San Francisco.

Member Rodriguez asked about whether changes in office vacancy rates are around companies that have closed offices. Through the Chair, Mr. Bintliff stated that it could be the case. Finally, Member Rodriguez inquired about restrictions for single occupancy vehicles and if these restrictions would be relaxed. Through the Chair, Mr. Bintliff expressed City priorities for ensuring people can quickly and safely transit to and from the City. Member Thomas expressed concern about commuting to and from restaurants and small businesses in downtown San Francisco, and expressed priorities for small business customers and consumers to feel safe. Seeing no more questions, Acting Chair Cotter moved to the next agenda item.
Acting Chair Cotter introduced OEWD Workforce Director Joshua Arce. Director Arce presented the Workforce Director’s Report and highlighted Mayor Breed’s Roadmap to Downtown San Francisco’s Future. Director Arce presented California Employment Development Department labor market information for San Francisco County from December 2022. The data demonstrates a 2.0% unemployment rate, which is the lowest rate within the past twelve months. 11,700 individuals are unemployed, though estimates do not reflect those who are out of the workforce. From December 2019 to December 2022, the San Francisco–San Mateo Metropolitan District reported a 0.3% increase in additional jobs. In two months, from October 2022 to December 2022, employment increased by 0.7%.

In addition, Director Arce spoke to the following items:

- The Bay Area Good Jobs Partnership for Equity (BAGJPE)—a workforce board partnership of all Bay Area workforce boards—and OEWD applied for a $10 million State grant for the region to convene a regional planning table with healthcare industry representatives and community members to develop a roadmap over the next two years. If funded, the Community and Economic Resilience through the Care Economy (CERCE) program intends to support the Bay Area healthcare industry in filling vacancies for 60,000 healthcare professionals over the next five years;
- The Dream Keeper Initiative has been running for two years successfully, and programs such as CityEMT have addressed the historical disparity in unemployment rates over the past ten years between unemployment for Black San Franciscans as compared to the citywide average. To celebrate Dream Keeper Initiatives successes, OEWD helped organize and facilitate the conference “Dreaming Forward: A Celebration of Black Joy, Power, and Excellence.”
- OEWD visited Upwardly Global, and Director Arce thanked the organization for its impact. CityEMT now has over 60 graduates in emergency medical service occupations, many of whom have earned employment at the San Francisco Fire Department or at private sector ambulance partners.
- Director Arce made remarks about the two-year pilot program with the American Indian Cultural District with Friendship House. Member Woo invited OEWD to partner with Jobs for Humanity, an organization working to bring together job seekers with disabilities or justice involvement under the Department of Rehabilitation with service providers, employers, human resources professionals, and recruiters.
- Mayor Breed celebrated Lunar New Year with SEIU Local 2015 and San Francisco IHSS.
- The City and County of San Francisco try to streamline the hiring process to get folks employed through City job fairs. Director Arce mentioned that IKEA is opening up in San Francisco. Positions are posted live on the Workforce Link System, which is one example of work around the First Source Hiring Policy. Dr. Espanola Jackson led this policy and other community development achievements;
- OEWD will engage with employers, labor unions, and industry associations to identify the employment needs of small and large businesses and inform workforce programming to help that job seeker as an initiative with Mayor Breed’s Roadmap to Downtown San Francisco’s Future.
- Director Arce shared that the 2nd Annual Hospitality and Small Business Job Fair will be held as the San Francisco Ferry Building on Wednesday, April 12, 2023 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
CityDrive has been a very successful partnership with SFMTA, discussions are underway for programming next year, and Director Arce will provide the requested update.
Acting Chair Cotter introduced Executive Director of the San Francisco Labor Council, Kim Tavaglione. Member Tavaglione described her personal and professional background and experience on the WISF since 2020. Acting Chair Cotter thanked Member Tavaglione for her presentation and solicited questions from WISF members. Member Delorio thanked Member Tavaglione for her service and made a note that she is a member of the Teamsters Local 665. Acting Chair Cotter moved to the following discussion item.

Acting Chair Cotter skipped the Regional and Local WIOA Plan Modification agenda item in order to prioritize the community update, with the intent to revisit the plan modification after the community presentation.

Acting Chair Cotter introduced Enterprise for Youth’s team: Carlos Solis, the Chief Operating Officer, and Lauren Chen, Program and Evaluation Manager. This organization has provided opportunities to serve over 25,000 young people since its inception in 1969. Mr. Solis and Ms. Chen shared their background with being involved in Enterprise for Youth and presented the impact Enterprise for Youth has within the community. Each year, 500 youth benefit from the educational and employment services they provide. Enterprise for Youth sets young people on the right path to achieving career success. Acting Chair Cotter thanked Enterprise for Youth for their presentation and solicited questions from WISF members.

Acting Chair Cotter Introduced Jen Hand, Workforce Alignment Manager with OEWD. Ms. Hand gave a brief overview of the Local and Regional WIOA Plan Modification updates and stakeholder engagement activities. Ms. Hand summarized the action before the committee to approve the plans and allow the Acting Chair to sign the plans. Acting Chair Cotter solicited questions from WISF members. Director Arce mentioned that the WIOA plan had been previously brought before the Board and reiterated that the Board and the public are being asked to approve the framework of WIOA from the presentations and meetings.

Acting Chair Cotter opened the meeting for public comment. Seeing none, Chair Cotter requested a motion for the Board to introduce the plan and for the Board to sign the plan. Next, acting Chair Cotter solicited a motion to approve, second, and vote to approve the Regional WIOA Plan. Finally, acting Chair Cotter requested a motion to sign on the Board’s behalf. Member Delorio made a motion, and Member Woo seconded. The motion to approve was unanimous.

Acting Chair Cotter skipped this agenda item in the interest of time.
Acting Chair Cotter opened the meeting for public comment on non-agenda items. Secretary Rollins shared that those in a virtual space could provide public comment in the chat.

A member of the public, George Colon, commented in the chat that young people possess excellent soft skills and need a supportive, understanding environment with open communication to thrive.

Seeing no more comments, Acting Chair Cotter requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Tavaglione made a motion, and Member Rodriguez seconded. The motion to adjourn was unanimous. The meeting ended at 10:59 a.m.