**Future of Work Commission**

**MINUTES**

**FOURTH MEETING OF COMMISSION MEMBERS**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2021**

**Time:** 11:00 am

**Location**: Plymouth Town Hall, 26 Court St., Plymouth MA 02360

**MEMBERS PRESENT**: Rep. Josh S. Cutler (Co-Chair), Senator Eric Lesser (Co-Chair), Rep. Lenny Mirra, Rep. Kathy LaNatra, Secretary Rosalin Acosta, Tonja Mettlach, Miriam Ortiz, Lisa Bernt, Lauren Jones, Secretary Joanne Goldstein, Rahkeem Morris, Laura Stout, Al Vega, Harry Dumay, Joe Bevilacqua

**ALSO PRESENT**: President Fred Clark (BSU), Paul Jean (BSU), Fmr Senate President Therese Murray, Elisabeth Babcock (EMPath), Carine Sauvignon (Massasoit), Genesis Otero (SkillsBuild), Mona Darwich (SkillsBuild), Robert Bower (AFL-CIO)

1. **Welcome Remarks**. Co-Chairs Sen. Eric Lesser and Rep. Josh Cutler each gave some opening remarks and welcomed Plymouth delegation officials Rep. Kathy LaNatra and Senator Susan Moran. Rep. LaNatra welcomed the Commission to Plymouth and Senator Moran gave some brief remarks on the importance of childcare as core to future of work issues.
2. **Meeting Announcements**. Meeting protocols and reminders from Chair Cutler.
3. **Roll Call and Meeting Minutes**. Chair Cutler took roll. Minutes from the September 21st meeting were approved as written via a voice vote.
4. **Presentation from Bridgewater State University (BSU) President Fred Clark.** Rep. Cutler introduced BSU President Fred Clark to present on future of work issues from the perspective of a state university. President Clark gave an overview of BSU and the student perspective, including the unique attributes of Generation Z as students and workers. President Clark also expanded on the employer perspective and how labor supply might meet and collaborate with the worker demand. Finally, President Clark described future and current workforce development programs and state-of-the-art facilities at BSU. Following the presentation, there was a brief questions period. (PowerPoint presentation)
5. **Presentation from former Senate President Therese Murray**. Rep. Cutler introduced former Senate President Therese Murray. Senator Murray gave an overview of how different generations had evolving expectations and challenges regarding their work and corresponding benefits. Sen. Murray detailed current trends in the workforce and how the landscape of employee benefits has changed. She recommended that the Commonwealth look at the whole picture – housing, employment opportunities, living wages, workforce training, closing the wealth gap, childcare, healthcare, and more – when examining the future of work. Sen. Murray encouraged the Commission to act boldly to support the workforce in new and large ways, emphasizing the state’s capacity to invest and the Massachusetts’ educated workforce and innovation economy as possessing the capabilities to lead on these issues. Following the presentation, there was a brief questions period.
6. **Presentation from President and CEO of EMPath Elisabeth Babcock**. Sen. Lesser introduced Elisabeth Babcock, who gave a presentation on EMPath’s Mobility Mentoring and the science behind the methodology. President Babcock detailed the science and psychology behind the movement in/around poverty, and how these stresses compromise soft skills and analytic thinking. She agreed with the emphasis on alternative workforce pathways and training, but also highlighted the need to look at who is going to or able to complete these programs, emphasizing that basic resources are just as essential. Following the presentation, there was a brief questions period. (PowerPoint presentation)
7. **Presentation from a workforce training panel.** Rep. Cutler introduced Genesis Otero and Mona Darwich, pre-apprentices in the SkillsBuild program, and Carine Sauvignon, Executive Dean at the Massasoit Community College Canton campus. Genesis and Mona spoke on their backgrounds and experiences with the SkillsBuild program. Exe. Dean Sauvignon testified on her experience coordinating and administering Massasoit workforce training programs, particularly an inmate re-entry workforce development program that provides diesel technician training at Massasoit. After their introductory remarks, there was a discussion session with the members.
8. **Next Meeting**. Chair Lesser reminded members that the next meeting date is set for Tuesday, October 26 at 11:00AM at Elms College. There will be a coffee hour starting at 10AM that day at the venue. The topic will be wraparound services: technology, broadband, transportation, and childcare.
9. **Adjournment**. Rep. Cutler encouraged any further contributions or suggestions from Commission members, to be circulated by staff. Meeting adjourned at 1:41 pm.