

City of Somerville, Massachusetts  
Job Creation and Retention Trust

***Trustees***

Thomas Bent  
Vickie Choitz  
Lisa Cook  
Silvana Dinka  
Thomas Galligani  
Anika Van Eaton  
Rand Wilson  
Josh Grehan  
Jesse Clingan

**Minutes**

Somerville Job Creation and Retention Trust  
Tuesday, April 21, 2019, at 5:30PM  
Gotomeeting

In attendance: Vickie Choitz, Anika Van Eaton, Thomas Bent, Rand Wilson, Lisa Cook, Thomas Galligani, Jesse Clingan, Silvana Dinka, Josh Grehan

Staff Present: Ben Sommer

Meeting commenced at 5:34pm

All members were present

1. Approval of April 7th meeting minutes
  - Motion to approve made by Thomas Galligani. Seconded by Josh Grehan.
  - Motion was unanimously approved.
  
2. Discussion and updates on immediate grant assistance to organizations serving Somerville residents, workers, and businesses economically impacted by COVID-19 related business shutdowns.
  - A discussion was held on applications and decision making process made by the review committee.
  - Lisa Cook gave more explanation about how the Somerville Public Schools (SPS) Comcast subscription works. Anika Van Eaton asked if all SPS internet needs were being met with JCRT funds in combination with other funds.
  - Vickie Choitz outlined several options for moving forward: The JCRT could authorize another round this fiscal year for the remainder of the funds, around \$35,000. The JCRT could wait until July 1<sup>st</sup> to release another round of \$100,000 in funding. Josh Grehan suggested that we would likely need to put more money on the street sooner rather than later. Ben Sommer noted that there are more funding opportunities available now from local, state, and federal sources than were available when the JCRT released funds initially.

- Vicky Choitz suggested that the remainder of this funding round could be used for digital literacy and tool access at the schools. Ben Sommer was directed to follow up with SPS on continued needs.

3. Vote to approve additional funding for further grant assistance

- No vote was held.

4. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn made by Anika Van Eaton. Thomas Bent seconded the motion.
- The meeting adjourned at 6:47pm.