

City of Cambridge

The Human Service and Youth Committee held a public hearing on January 7, 1993 beginning at 4:15 p.m. in the Ackermann Room for the purpose of discussing the Youth Employment Development Plan. Present at the hearing were: Councillor Jonathan S. Myers, Chair of the Committee, Councillor Timothy J. Toomey, Jr. and Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

Councillor Myers convened the hearing and stated that there has been a great deal of discussion about youth employment. If the Council can agree to support a plan, it would show valuable support for young people. He noted that the plan puts emphasis on apprenticeship. Councillor Toomey asked whether there was emphasis on academics which he said he sees as very important.

Councillor Myers asked how these issues should be addressed with the School Department. Councillor Toomey suggested coordination with the Rindge Vocational Program and with Larry Rosenstock's new program.

Councillor Toomey asked whether there are too many agencies involved. Should there be a more centralized program?

Councillor Myers said that he believes that the city should be trying to do more, although some of the agencies believe that will take away from their efforts, he does not agree. The emphasis should be on the number of kids that are served, not whether it is the city or a non-profit agency. He believes the city should tackle an area and really get involved.

Councillor Toomey asked what population Councillor Myers was thinking of targeting. He noted that if the goal is the provision of jobs, they should be meaningful. The business community would need to be involved.

Councillor Myers said that the apprenticeship idea seems very viable. It can be tied to academics, as well. He would be interested in involving the business community, for example, through a tax credit for businesses that provide apprenticeships. He believes this would require home rule legislation. Councillor Myers noted that President-elect Clinton has also talked about apprenticeship programs which suggests that there may be some federal funds available.

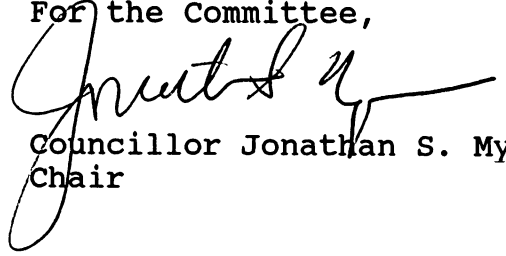
It was agreed that the Committee should invite the Chair of the School Committee sub committee on Occupational Education and David Maher to the next meeting.

There was further discussion of how to get businesses interested. Councillor Myers said that he didn't know whether a tax credit was necessary. Councillor Toomey said that some incentive to businesses would probably be required.

Both Councillor Myers and Councillor Toomey agreed that they support the idea of an apprenticeship program and would like to do further work on this issue. Councillor Myers agreed to work on a draft of a plan to provide incentives, including tax credits for businesses who participate in an apprenticeship program.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

For the Committee,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jonathan S. Myers", written over the printed name and title.

Councillor Jonathan S. Myers
Chair

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4. 5-50

COMMITTEE REPORT

Human Service and Youth Committee for a hearing held on January 7, 1993 on the discussion of the Youth Employment Development Plan.

In City Council,

February 1, 1993

*Report accepted
Placed on file*