

**NEW YORK CITY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD
WORKFORCE POLICY COMMITTEE**

Meeting of February 17, 2010

At the New York City Department of Small Business Services
110 William Street, 7th Floor
New York, NY 10038

MINUTES

Committee Members Present:

Horace Barker, Richard Windram, Marc Leff, Pat Fahy, Joe McDermott, Debbie King, John Moye, John Mogulescu, Charles Callahan

Also Present:

Phil Weinberg, Lea Kilraine, Deldreana Peterkin, Cesar Cardenas, Angie Kamath, Matt White, Sara Schlossberg, Katie Schwabb (Manatt)

Horace Barker, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the December 16, 2010 meeting of the Workforce Policy Committee (WPC) were approved.

Horace Barker welcomed the Committee and provided members with an overview of the meeting agenda.

Review of 2010 Workforce Policy Committee Priority Items and a Look Forward to 2011 Goals

The first agenda item covered progress on the recently-conceptualized Workforce1 Express Centers. Matt White, Assistant SBS Commissioner for Workforce Development, reported good progress in project implementation, including positive conversations with potential project partners such as the public libraries, and expressed optimism that the first Express Centers could start operating sometime around mid-2011. The policy committee provided positive impressions on SBS follow up to recommendations that were made at the December meeting when the Express Center project was first raised with the group. Matt also informed the committee of SBS's decision to suspend ITG issuance for the remainder of program year 2010.

Review of NYC Business Solutions Training Funds Investments

Members then heard from Sara Schlossberg of NYC Business Solutions Training Funds who informed the group of recent adjustments to Training Funds investments that will focus the program exclusively on four types of training that have consistently led to participating businesses being more competitive and wage gains for worker trainees. Sara also described plans to offer certain kinds of high-value, standardized training for businesses that don't have the ability to identify a training curriculum or provider or administer program and plans to build and lead industry consortiums that train workers from multiple businesses at once.

Policy Committee Agrees to Take Action in Fight Against Proposed Funding Cuts to Workforce Investment Act Programs

WIB staff Cesar Cardenas presented an action plan that the Policy Committee agreed to follow to oppose proposed federal funding cuts to WIA programming nationwide. The Fiscal Year 2011 spending bill that passed the House of Representatives in February (HR1) threatened to "zero out" WIA programs nationwide effective July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012. Such cuts could have led to the forced closure

of all six WIA-funded Workforce1 Career Centers and all six NYC Business Solutions Centers starting July 1, 2011. The Policy Committee agreed to reach out individually via email letter to Senators Charles Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand demanding restoration of WIA spending in any final federal spending bill. By meeting time on February 17th, two temporary federal spending bills had been signed into law to keep the federal government running. Neither included any significant cuts to WIA programs.

Conclusion

Following the business described above, the meeting was adjourned.