



QUARTERLY MEETING

At the New York City Department of Small Business Services
110 William Street, 4th Floor Board Room

September 13, 2006

MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Ken Adams	Reg Foster	John Mogulescu
Robert Battista	Neil Hernandez	Thomas Moloney
Richard Boyle	Susan Haskell for J. Mullgrav	Stuart Saft
Michele Cahill	Chuck Hunt	Carole Sobin
Charles Callahan	William Janowitz	Sara Spatz
Roy Cosme	Deborah King	Robert Walsh
Rocco Damato	Rae Linefsky	
Carl Day for V. Eggleston	Joseph McDermott	

Guests:

Miguel Almodovar	Alinda Franks	Omer Mohammed
Susan Arroyo	Sara Garretson	Michael Ognibene
Pamela Bradley	Katy Gaul	Marty Osterrich
Rebecca Brown	Dale Grant	Randy Peers
Debora Buxton	Angie Kamath	Deldreana Peterkin
Chris Cesarani	Andrew Kane	Jeremy Reiss
Janet Clemetson	Megan Keenan	Carolyn Robinson
Spencer Cronk	Kevin Kelly	Elyse Rudolph
David DuPay	Calvin Johnson	Jean Seltzer
Brian Egan	Melissa Lee	Cristina Shapiro
Mark Elliott	Lisa Lin Ying	Marilyn Shea
David Fischer	Suzanne Lynn	Lisa Van Brackle
Richard Fish	Moe Magali	Florence Wong
Blake Foote	David Margalit	Sondra Youdelman
Bill Forrester	Ismail Mohamed	

Stuart Saft, Chair, called the meeting to order.

Agency Updates

Mr. Saft announced that several Workforce Investment Board (WIB) members would need to leave the meeting early to attend a Mayor's Commission for Economic Opportunity announcement. Mr. Saft noted that update memoranda from the Department of Small Business Services (SBS) and the Department of Youth & Community Development (DYCD) were emailed to the members in advance of the meeting. He called upon SBS Commissioner Robert Walsh and DYCD Assistant Commissioner Susan Haskell to discuss recent programmatic highlights.

Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Update

Marilyn Shea, WIB Executive Director, informed that Board that New York City had recently received its final WIA allocations for Program Year 2006 (PY06), which were as follows: Adult, \$29.5 million; Dislocated Worker, \$19.1 million; and Youth \$28.8 million. Ms. Shea reported that the PY06 allocations, in total, were \$19.4 million (or 20%) less than the previous year. She noted that these cuts in funding were attributable to: a reduced Federal appropriation for WIA in Fiscal Year 2006; modifications to the Federal allocation formula; and a reduction in New York City's unemployment rate from last year. Ms. Shea reported that while the allocations were final and not open for appeal, the WIB was working through several national workforce organizations to emphasize to legislators the value of the federally-funded workforce investment system.

Workforce Policy Committee Update

Rocco Damato, Chair of the Workforce Policy Committee, stated that the Committee met on July 20 and September 7, 2006. Mr. Damato reported that the Workforce1 Career Centers had placed over 4,000 jobseekers into employment for the quarter ended June 30, 2006. He also reported that the NYC Business Solutions Training Grant Program, to date, has awarded more than \$1.6 million and leveraged an additional \$1.975 in matching funds to help employers train 1,170 employees.

Mr. Damato noted that Worksource1, a new web-based performance and information management system for the Career Centers was launched in June. Lastly, he stated that the Committee had been briefed on ongoing efforts to functionally align Wagner-Peyser and Workforce Investment Act services and customers in the Workforce1 Career Centers and affiliated Division of Employment Services sites.

Youth Council Update

Reg Foster, Chair of the Youth Council, reported that the Youth Board and Youth Council met on September 7, 2006. In the interest of saving time, Mr. Foster referred the members to his memo in the Board book for an account of the meeting.

Presentation and Panel Discussion

Mr. Saft introduced guest speaker David Fischer, Project Director at the Center for an Urban Future. Mr. Fischer presented the major findings of his report *Chance of a Lifetime*, which highlights the issue of disconnected youth in New York City and identifies opportunities to engage youth in the workforce, particularly in several key industries in which sizable vacancies are anticipated due to a large numbers of projected retirements. Following Mr. Fischer's presentation, a reaction panel offered different perspectives on preparing New York City's youth to take advantage of these opportunities in terms of education, job preparedness and job training. The panelists were: Michele Cahill, NYC Department of Education; Suzanne Lynn, Department of Youth & Community Development; Mark Elliott, consultant; and Reg Foster, IBM. Following a discussion among the panelists and WIB members, the WIB agreed that preparing New York City's youth to compete in an increasingly global economy should be one of the City's top priorities.

Conclusion

Following the business described above, the meeting was adjourned. Mr. Saft announced that the next quarterly WIB meeting would be on December 13, 2006.