



## QUARTERLY MEETING

Pace University, 3 Spruce Street  
New York, New York

Thursday, September 16, 2010  
8:30 – 10:00 AM

## MINUTES

### Board Members Present:

Bill Abramson	Susan Haskell	Robert Purga
Horace Barker	Kathy Kearns	Robert Reffkin
Les Bluestone	Deborah King	Deirdre Scott
Marion Boykin	Marc Leff	Maria Serrano
Charles Callahan III	Rae Linefsky	Mia Simon
Ken Dircks	Richard Mast	Maria Torres
Robert Doar	Joe McDermott	Robert Walsh
Patricia Fahy	Tom Pendleton	Veronica White
Ester Fuchs	Michelle Pinnock	

### Guests Present:

Tracie Abbott	Bret Halverson	<b>Hon. Christine Quinn</b>
Elyse Barbell	Courtney Hawkins	Ellen Richer
David Berman	Daria Hirsch	Tasha Rivers
Kathy Brady	Calvin Johnson	Danny Rojas
Cesar Cardenas	Angie Kamath	Matilda Roman
Chris Cesarani	Nydia Loyd	Kate Schwal
Karen Coleman	Suzanne Lynn	Ray Singleton
Tara Colton	Jeffrey Martin	Jennifer Steinberg
Jacqueline Cook	Yolanda McBride	Katy Taylor
Joe Christo	Andrew Miller	Barbara Ulrich
David Fischer	Anne Norbeck	Marianne Vernetson
Richard Fish	Marty Oesterriech	Phil Weinberg
Lianne Friedman	Christina Perrotti	Jerome White
Katy Gaul	Deldreana Peterkin	Matt White

### Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the June 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the New York City Workforce Investment Board (WIB) were approved.

## **Chairman's Report**

Ms. Kearns welcomed the Board. She began the meeting by introducing and welcoming Speaker Christine Quinn of New York City Council. Speaker Quinn has developed a reputation for finding innovative solutions, and furthering policies that are both creative and fiscally responsible. She has worked to make the Council more responsive to the needs of all New Yorkers, and dramatically increased transparency and accountability. Following the introduction, Speaker Quinn addressed the Board on issues including job creation, GED attainment and alignment with workforce services, and support for small businesses. She also spoke of the Council's investment in a partnership between the Workforce1 Career Centers and the NYC Department of Education that will support the GED attainment services for Workforce1 clients city-wide. Following Ms. Quinn's remarks, Ms. Kearns facilitated a discussion between the Speaker and the members

## **Literacy and Workforce In New York City**

Ms. Kearns continued with the theme of literacy and workforce from Speaker Quinn's remarks and introduced Jacqueline Cooke, a recognized national leader in adult education and workforce development whose most recent research report, *Our Chance for Change: A Four-year Reform Initiative for GED Testing in NYC*, has been the catalyst for public attention and investment in GED reform. Ms. Cook provided additional detail on the new workforce/literacy pilot between the Workforce1 Career Centers and the NYC Department of Education, review pilot goals, logistics and expected outcomes. Following the presentation, Ms. Kearns facilitated a discussion between Ms. Cook and the members.

## **WIB Strategic Plan 2011-2013: Priorities and Action**

Ms. Kearns gave brief introductory remarks about the new WIB Strategic Plan. She described how the plan was a joint collaboration amongst the Board members and staff. Ms. Kearns invited members to say a few words about the process and what the group set out to accomplish. WIB Member Ester Fuchs praised the planning effort and expressed her support for its emphasis on the WIB's leadership role in creating a coordinated workforce system city-wide. Vice Chair Horace Barker applauded the Board for the deliberate and inclusive process that was undertaken to develop the plan.

Next, Ms. Kearns was joined by WIB President Phil Weinberg, who provided an overview of key aspects of the plan, including the stated mission, priorities, structure and roles. Following a discussion, the Board unanimously approved a resolution to approve the WIB's 2011-2013 Strategic Plan.

Following approval of the plan, Mr. Weinberg introduced WIB member Les Bluestone, to say a few words about the new Employer Engagement Committee, a new Board committee created by the strategic plan, and Mr. Bluestone's potential chairmanship. Ms. Kearns thanked Mr. Bluestone and directed the Board members to the resolution in the meeting materials that recommended approval of the new Employer Engagement Committee and Les Bluestone, Partner of Blue Sea Development Corporation, as the new Chairman of the Employer Engagement Committee. The Board unanimously endorsed the resolution approving the new Committee and Les Bluestones as the Chair of the Committee.

Finally to wrap up the agenda, Ms. Kearns introduced Joe Christo of Small Business Services, who provided the Board with a brief summary of the progress of the Workforce1 Healthcare Career Center, a high-profile investment made in the healthcare sector.

## **Conclusion**

Following the business described above, the meeting was adjourned. Ms. Kearns announced that the next quarterly WIB meeting would be held on December 7, 2010.