

## QUARTERLY MEETING

116 East 55<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, New York

Monday, June 30, 2014  
8:30 – 10:00 AM

## MINUTES

### Board Members Present:

Don Ashkenase  
Horace Barker  
Scott Berger  
Les Bluestone  
Bill Chong  
Arnold Dorin

Ester Fuchs  
Deborah King  
Rae Linefsky  
Joseph McDermott  
John Mogulescu  
Thomas Moloney

George Ntim  
Maria Serrano (D)  
Maria Torres Springer  
Rich Windram

### Guests Present:

Alan Cheng  
Mary Ellen Clark  
Pam Corbett  
Liza Ehrlich  
Blake Foote  
Bob Garafola  
Bret Halverson

Sarah Haas  
Courtney Hawkins  
Kim Hernandez  
Carson Hicks  
Lesley Hirsch  
Melinda Mack  
Jackie Mallon

Sara Marks  
Chris Neale  
Jeanique Riche  
Sharon Sewell-Fairman  
Sideya Sherman  
Fran Winter

### Katy Gaul-Stigge Addresses the WIB

Katy Gaul-Stigge, the new Executive Director of the newly organized Office of Workforce Development, shared her vision for how workforce development fits into Mayor de Blasio's agenda for reducing income inequality. Moving forward, the goal is to have a workforce system focused on 21st century jobs with upward income mobility, and the office is looking at using a career pathways framework – an employer driven system focused on long term skill development, support services and advances – to help the city achieve this goal. Katy described the Jobs for New Yorkers task force, created by the Mayor, which will provide guidance around new strategies to create a system that builds the skills employers seek, integrates workforce systems and connects to economic development opportunities/employer engagement and improves job quality. The task force will help the Office of Workforce

Development develop new strategies for systems change, while the WIB will be an ongoing advisory board that helps the office implement these wide ranging changes. Katy also announced that nine new WIB members have been appointed to the board, **which will bring the WIB into compliance**, and these members will be joining meetings moving forward.

### **Overview of the Proposed WIA Reauthorization**

Congress is on the verge of passing legislation to reauthorize the nation's workforce development and adult education programs, and three local experts described the proposed legislation, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and how it might impact two city agencies. Melinda Mulawka Mack, of New York Association of Training and Employment Professionals, provided an overview of the Workforce Investment Act, describing the current legislation and the proposed changes to the bill. Given the fact that the Senate just passed the bill, Melinda encouraged WIB members to contact their House of Representatives member. Next, the Department of Small Business Services (SBS) described the services housed at the Workforce Development Division, and how WIOA might affect the department; analysis suggests that reauthorization will make limited changes to the way SBS uses its WIA funds for Adults and Dislocated Workers. Lastly, the Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) described its programming for In School Youth and Out of School Youth, funded by WIA, and how WIOA may impact its programming; although WIOA will require increased funding for Out of School Youth (75% vs. 60%), DYCD already focuses on this population, and there are limited other impacts.

### **NYC Departments Report on Use of WIA Funding**

The NYC Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) and the NYC Department of Small Business Services (SBS) updated the WIB on their recent programming activities and what they have been doing with their WIA funding. Highlights from DYCD included a \$1.4 million increase in funding from New York State; additional funds will support an increase in the number of youth slots for both In School Youth and Out of School Youth programming; standardized SAT preparation, and additional technical assistance on the new high school equivalency tests for providers. Summer Youth Employment (SYEP) will commence on July 7<sup>th</sup>; this year, there will be 47,000 slots open, which is the highest since 2009, when the City used federal stimulus dollars to fund slots. Lastly, DYCD recently released a Neighborhood Development Area concept paper that will include an option for disconnected youth employment. Funded through the federal Community Services Block Grant, this component will aim to support 1000 youth reading at a 6<sup>th</sup> grade level who are not in school or working, and are in need of work experience or work readiness training. DYCD projects that they will release this RFP in the early fall.

Then SBS provided its updates. In line with the Administration's efforts to create more opportunity and fundamentally shift our workforce system to focus on quality, well-paying jobs that support families, SBS implemented a new policy on April 1, 2014: the agency will reserve its recruitment services for businesses offering full-time hours or paying at least \$10 per hour, with limited exceptions. While this policy may lead to reduced volume of placements, it will shift the Workforce1 system's focus to higher quality jobs with the goal of connecting more New Yorkers to jobs that pay better wages; it has already increased full time placements, from

40% to 60% in the last quarter. SBS will continue to use its WIA dollars to run programs that are driven by employer demand and sector-specific knowledge; it will continue its health care work through the public-private intermediary, New York Alliance for Careers in Healthcare (NYACH) and is also launching a new technology intermediary. The Tech Talent Pipeline, a collaboration between businesses, community groups, training providers, and government, was designed to grow the tech sector in NYC and ensure that all New Yorkers have a fair and equal chance at these living wage jobs. The Tech Talent Pipeline was founded with a \$10 million, 3 year commitment for city, state, federal, and private partners. The funding will be used to recruit and train New Yorkers; design new curricula to meet employer needs; and engage employers in building the talent pipeline. More broadly, from January 1, 2014 through May 31, 2014, SBS helped connect New Yorkers to more than 10,400 jobs; that number is expected to increase as SBS confirms additional placements that occurred during the period.

### **WIB Meeting Wrap Up and Thanks**

The acting WIB chair, Horace Barker, thanked the Office of Workforce Development for its engagement and outreach over the past few months as it looks to kick off this new and exciting era.

The meeting was then adjourned.