



QUARTERLY MEETING

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

December 14, 2005

MINUTES

Board Members Present:

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| William Abramson | John Harloff | Thomas Moloney |
| Ken Adams | Ellen Howard-Cooper | George Ntim |
| Richard Boyle | Everett Hughes for J. Mullgrav | Robert Purga |
| Charles Callahan | Chuck Hunt | Stuart Saft |
| Rocco Damato | William Janowitz | Mia Simon for J. Mogulescu |
| Rex Davidson | Mark Leff for P. Brier | Audrey Slade |
| Ester Fuchs | Rae Linefsky | Carole Sobin |
| Mildred Garcia | Joseph McDermott | Howard Van Jones |
| Colvin Grannum | Kathleen McGovern | Robert Walsh |

Guests:

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| Miguel Almodovar | Bret Halverson | Deldreana Peterkin |
| Dan Barasch | Calvin Johnson | Walter Pitts |
| Tara Boirard | Andrew Kane | Bonnie Potter |
| Rebecca Brown | Adam Kash | Jeremy Reiss |
| Chris Cesarani | Lisa Laudico | Elyse Rudolph |
| Tony Dell'Olio | Wendy Lee | Jean Seltzer |
| Brian Egan | Suzanne Lynn | Marilyn Shea |
| David Fischer | David Margalit | Sara Spatz |
| Karen Fleshman | Jacqueline Maxwell | John Twomey |
| Lisa Flores | Ismail Mohamed | Ray Uhalde |
| Alinda Franks | Alicia Noel | Melissa Wavelet |
| Celeste Frye | Marty Oesterreich | Rebecca Widom |
| Sara Garretson | James Parrott | Sondra Youdelman |
| Katy Gaul | Randy Peers | Scott Zucker |

Stuart Saft, Chair, called the meeting to order.

Chairman's Report

Mr. Saft announced that Chuck Hunt, Executive Vice President of the New York State Restaurant Association, was appointed to the Workforce Investment Board (WIB). Mr. Saft noted that Mr. Hunt brings to the Board more than 40 years of experience in the restaurant and food service industries. The Board welcomed Mr. Hunt.

Mr. Saft brought to the Board's attention a number of documents in the Board Book, including a description of Board members' responsibilities, a one-page background

document about the New York City WIB, and a Local Labor Report, produced for the WIB by Jim Brown, Labor Market Analyst for New York City at the New York State Department of Labor. The report included important data on New York City's economy, including rates of unemployment, job growth, and industry growth. Mr. Saft noted that the Local Labor Report would become a regular addition to the quarterly Board Book.

Mr. Saft reported on an event that he attended on December 12th with Small Business Services Commissioner Robert Walsh and WIB Executive Director Marilyn Shea at the Parsons School of Design. Mayor Bloomberg and model Heidi Klum announced at the event that the Garment Industry Development Corporation received a \$244,000 NYC Business Solutions Training Grant to train more than 300 machine operators and first line supervisors. Mr. Saft noted that this was a compelling example of how the workforce investment system can work with employers to train workers in skills and occupations that are in demand.

Resolution Authorizing Committee Restructuring

Mr. Saft reported that the Executive Committee met immediately prior to the full Board meeting and endorsed a proposal to modify the WIB's Committee structure. Mr. Saft directed the Board members to a resolution in the Board Book that contained the terms of the proposed restructuring. Mr. Saft highlighted the specific changes described in the resolution:

- Merging the Training and One-Stop Committees into a single Workforce Policy Committee
- Creating a new Communications Committee
- Creating a framework for "workgroups" to investigate different workforce topics that are of interest to members

The workgroups, Mr. Saft noted, would provide Board members with opportunities to assemble small teams to research particular workforce topics (such as ESL, school-to-work, and ex-offender programs) and make policy recommendations to the Strategic Planning Committee. Mr. Saft also noted that the Strategic Planning Committee, Executive Committee, and Youth Council would not be affected by the Committee restructuring proposal. After a brief discussion, the Board unanimously approved the resolution to authorize the Committee restructuring.

Department of Small Business Services Update

Robert Walsh, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Small Business Services (SBS) reported on the launch of a new Workforce1 Career Center at CUNY on the Concourse in the Bronx, which was emblematic of the growing strength of the relationship between the agency and the City University of New York (CUNY) system. The Commissioner also highlighted the launch of the NYC Business Solutions Training Grant program, a customized training program that provides qualifying businesses with up to 50% of employee training costs. Commissioner Walsh thanked the Board members for their contributions to these recent successes.

Department of Youth & Community Development Update

Everett Hughes, Executive General Counsel of the New York City Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD), provided an update on youth workforce activities on behalf of Commissioner Jeanne Mullgrav. Mr. Hughes reported that on November 22nd the agency released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Youth Workforce Development programs funded by the Workforce Investment Act. The RFP seeks

qualified vendors to provide effective and innovative Out-of-School Youth (OSY) and In-School Youth (ISY) programs. Mr. Hughes noted that the deadline to submit proposals would be January 12, 2006 and that the anticipated term of awarded contracts would be for three years, commencing July 1, 2006. Contracts would include an option to renew for up to three additional years. Mr. Hughes also reported that on October 20th, DYCD launched the City's Out-of-School Time (OST) initiative at a press event with Mayor Bloomberg.

Youth Council Update

Rae Linefsky, Vice Chair of the Youth Council, reported that the Youth Board and Youth Council met on December 8, 2005. She stated that the two primary topics of discussion were progress to date on the CAPITAL program and the merging of policy breakfasts on disconnected youth into a single half-day conference. The conference will be scheduled for a date in March or April 2006. Stating a goal of securing 100 internships, Ms. Linefsky encouraged the Board to consider participating in the CAPITAL program. Interested persons should follow up with Youth Council staff person Chris Cesarani.

Training Committee Update

Rocco Damato, Chair of the Training Committee, stated that the Committee met on October 18, 2005. He reported that the Committee approved several recommendations to improve the performance and accountability of training providers receiving Individual Training Accounts (ITAs). First, the Committee approved a resolution requiring training providers to demonstrate a 75% completion rate for their students enrolled in a training course. This policy took effect on November 1, 2005. Second, the Committee approved a resolution to revise the definition of "job placement," basing it on the number of students who enroll in a course instead of the number who complete a course. This policy was to take effect on January 1, 2006. Lastly, the Committee approved the concept of a Request for Applications (RFA) process for the NYC Business Solutions Training Grant program to increase the competitiveness and transparency of the training grant program.

One-Stop Committee Update

William Abramson stated that the One-Stop Committee met on September 30, 2005. He reported that the Committee reviewed the results of a survey conducted by the Policy & Planning unit of SBS of over 1,600 Workforce1 Career Center customers. The Committee also reviewed the System Measures Report Card for the quarter ended March 31, 2005. The Report Card is a collection of customer data reported by the different partners in the workforce investment system. Lastly, Mr. Abramson reported that the Committee was presented with a recommendation to issue a request for proposals (RFP) to operate the Hunts Point Works demonstration project in the South Bronx as a Workforce1 Career Center. Continuing the success of the demonstration project, the new Career Center would serve businesses and jobseekers in Hunts Point and adjacent areas. The Committee unanimously approved the recommendation to release a RFP.

Presentation on Globalization and the Workforce

Mr. Saft introduced guest speaker Raymond Uhalde, Director of the Workforce Development Program at the National Center on Education and the Economy in Washington, D.C. Mr. Uhalde, who served at the U.S. Department of Labor for 25 years, is a noted authority on education and training programs in the United States, Europe, and Asia. Mr. Uhalde presented the Board with the preliminary findings of his research on international approaches to education and job training. Mr. Uhalde explained how

foreign countries – particularly China and India – are positioning their students and workers for success in an increasingly competitive global economy. Mr. Uhalde highlighted the competition that the United States faces from these nations. This mounting competition, he believes, will affect workers at all income and class levels in the U.S. Following Mr. Uhalde's presentation, Mr. Saft led the Board in a discussion of some preliminary ways that it could help New York City's workers better compete in the global economy.

Conclusion

Mr. Saft announced that the next quarterly WIB meeting would be on March 8, 2006.

Following the business described above, the meeting was adjourned.