

# **QUARTERLY MEETING**

110 William Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, New York

Thursday, December 11, 2008

8:30 - 10:00 AM

### **MINUTES**

### **Board Members Present:**

Bill Abramson Edward Goldberg Tom Pendleton Nina Aledort Sarah Holloway Rose Rodriguez Stuart Saft Horace Barker Chuck Hunt Maria Serrano Richard Boyle Kathy Kearns Charles Callahan III Deborah King Ray Singleton Robert Walsh Rae Linefsky Rocco Damato Rex Davidson Joseph McDermott Arnold Dorin John Mogulescu

Jeanne Mulgrav

Reg Foster Ed Ott

#### **Guests:**

Mark Elliott

Tracie Abbott Anne Hayes Krista Pietrangelo Jose Vasquez Miguel Almodovar Annie Hitchens Faisal Rahman Matt White Darryl Rattray Rebecca Brown Angie Kamath Deborah Buyer Lea Kilraine Patricia Saenz Mana Paula Carvoyal Linda Scarce-Turner Suzanne Lynn Chris Cesarani Jeff Martin Larry Scott-Blackmon Rachel Decker Stephanie Martinez Araina Sepulveda Tim Ford Daphne Montanez Mis Simon Shira Gans Melinda Mulawka Renee Spence Sara Garretson Carla Stuart Chris Neale Katy Gaul Marty Oesterreich Karl Snyder **Bret Halverson** Michael Owh Sonia Torruella Susan Haskell Deldreana Peterkin Suzanne Towns

### **Approval of Minutes**

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

# **Chairman's Report**

Mr. Saft welcomed the Board. He began the meeting by welcoming new member Rose Rodriguez, the New York City Representative for the New York State Department of Labor (NYSDOL), to the Board. He detailed that in this role Rose is responsible for representing Commissioner M. Patricia Smith's interest in all department activities within NYC including dissemination of labor market information, worker protection activities, workforce and economic development and facilitates resolution of issues related to employment and workforce.

Next, Mr. Saft announced activities related to several key WIB initiatives including the NYC Labor Market Information Service report, the release of Innovations in City Government: The Case of New York City's Workforce Development System written by Columbia University, as well as the Board's efforts related to system advocacy. He invited the members to review the Executive Director Update Memo, and highlighted the Workforce Policy Committee approval of the new tiered pricing model for the Individual Training Grant (ITG) program.

Finally, Mr. Saft outlined six aggressive initiatives announced by Mayor Bloomberg in October aimed at responding to the current and worsening economic situation in New York City. He noted that the following initiatives will be directly managed by the NYC Department of Small Business Services (SBS):

- 1. Increased investment in the Transportation Sector-Based Career Center
- 2. Procurement for two additional Sector-Based Career Centers
- 3. Improving the productivity of Workforce1 Career Center system through technology investments
- 4. Increasing services at existing Workforce1 Career Centers including expanding Center hours
- 5. The development of CareerLinkNYC, an online resource for mid-skilled jobseekers, and
- 6. Increased funding for the NYC Training Funds program to help businesses train their workers to operate in more efficiently.

Similarly, Mr. Saft noted that the Executive Committee had an opportunity to learn more about the City's response to the economic downturn recently and that he was confident that the system was moving in the right direction to meet the growing needs of New Yorkers.

### **Youth Council Update**

Reg Foster, Chair of the Youth Council, shared with the Board an update on the DYCD's reallocation of WIA In-School Youth (ISY) Employment and Out-of-School (OSY) Employment program funds.

### **Keynote Presentation**

Mr. Saft introduced two guest speakers – John Colbert and John Twomey. He explained that Mr. Colbert is a partner in the governmental relations firm of Moss, McGee, Bradley, and Colbert, which specializes in representing workforce programs before Congress, the Executive Branch, as well as state and local governments. John's firm represents national programs, including the National Workforce Association and USA WORKS!, along with a variety of individual nonprofit and workforce programs. He is highly heavily

focused on WIA reauthorization and the annual appropriations for the WIA system. Mr. Twomey has been Executive Director of the New York Association of Training and Employment Professionals, Inc. (NYATEP) since January 1987. In this position John is an advocate for New York's workforce development community. From 1976 through 1986, John directly administered youth and adult employment programs for a community based organization in the Bronx, New York City. During John's tenure there, the Youth Development Program was named a model by New York City and the National Center for Delinquency and Its' Prevention, at the University of Seattle. John is the Past President of the National Workforce Association and also currently serves as President of USAWorks!

Following these introductions, Mr. Colbert and Mr. Twomey provided insight into what the recent elections in D.C. and in Albany mean for New York City's workforce system. Most notably Mr. Colbert detailed

- The future of the Workforce Investment Act reauthorization
- The focus of the economic stimulus package, and workforce funding opportunities as part of theis package?
- The likely effect on New York City changes in U.S. Department of Labor leadership and in the New York State Senate and Assembly

Mr. Twomey reviewed with the Board:

- The impact of the State budget crisis, and
- The workforce issues and initiatives the State is planning to focus their limited resources on

Following the presentation, Mr. Saft facilitated a discussion between John Colbert and the members.

# Conclusion

Following the business described above, on behalf of the Mayor, Melinda Mulawka, WIB Deputy Director handed out awards to the Executive Committee members including Stuart Saft, Kathy Kearns, and Mark Elliott who were unable to <a href="mailto:attend">attend</a> a recent Queens event.

The meeting was adjourned. Mr. Saft announced that the next quarterly WIB meeting would take place on March 19, 2009.