

**NEW YORK CITY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD
STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Meeting of August 9, 2006

At the New York City Department of Small Business Services
110 William Street, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10038

Minutes

Committee Members in Attendance:

William Abramson	Rae Linefsky
Rex Davidson	Kathleen McGovern Kearns
Reg Foster	Thomas Moloney
Ester Fuchs	Audrey Slade

Also Present:

Susan Arroyo	Philippa Karteron
Rebecca Brown	Ronnie Kauder
Chris Cesarani	Henrietta Lyle
Janet Clemetson	Bill Mabe
Brian Egan	Moe Magali
Aaron Fichtner	Omer Mohammed
Celeste Frye	Bonnie Potter
Katy Gaul	Neil Ridley
Susan Haskell	Cristina Shapiro
Angie Kamath	Marilyn Shea

Kathleen McGovern Kearns, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the April 28, 2006 Strategic Planning Committee were approved.

Healthcare Sector Strategy Recommendations

Marilyn Shea, Executive Director of the New York City Workforce Investment Board (WIB), reported that the WIB staff met with members of the Healthcare Advisory Group to assess the feasibility of the recommendations contained in the Council for Adult & Experiential Learning's final report to the WIB. Drawing from the report's findings, the WIB staff, in consultation with the Healthcare Advisory Group, developed recommendations for specific activities that the WIB could support in the healthcare sector, including:

- Promoting exemplary healthcare training practices in New York City
- Promoting the business case for healthcare worker training
- Developing partnerships with innovative employers and training providers to develop career advancement opportunities in entry-level healthcare occupations
- Targeting Individual Training Accounts and Business Solutions Training Grants toward high-growth healthcare occupations

- Promote the availability of, and access to, local workforce and economic information on the City's healthcare sector
- Promoting knowledge of healthcare careers among youth

The Committee members discussed the recommendations at length. Given constraints on time, Ms. McGovern recommended that a group of interested Committee members meet at a future date to continue the healthcare discussion.

LED Update

Ms. Marilyn Shea announced on the WIB's behalf that the New York City legislative affairs office supported the enactment of State legislation that will allow the New York State Department of Labor to share Unemployment Insurance wage record data with the US Census Bureau. This legislation, which was passed on June 23rd, will enable the State of New York to become part of the Local Employment Dynamics (LED) program, which is a robust internet-based, public labor market information system that matches data from unemployment insurance wage records, the quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, and the Current Population Survey to produce quarterly counts at the state and local level of employment, new hires, separations, average earnings and a number of other indicators which can be organized by geography, industry, and worker demographics. Ms. Shea indicated that 41 other states have already joined the LED program and are able to use this enhanced graphical database for critical purposes, including: Economic Development; Emergency Management; and providing timely local labor market information to both jobseekers and New York's businesses.

Workforce Information Network Update

Brian Egan, Assistant Director of the WIB, introduced the consulting team from the John J. Heldrich Center for Workforce Development at Rutgers University, which was contracted by the WIB to map sources of economic and workforce information in New York City and to assess the data needs of numerous stakeholder groups.

The consulting team, comprised of Neil Ridley, Aaron Fichtner, Bill Mabe, and Ronnie Kauder, provided an overview of the project, which supports the WIB's strategic initiative of promoting the availability of local workforce and economic data. The consultants reported that they conducted interviews with more than 50 representatives of the WIB, City agencies, training providers, and the New York State Department of Labor in order to assess the data needs of these users. In addition, they administered a web-based survey to 60 participants and conducted site visits at a Workforce1 Career Center and a Business Solutions Center.

The consultants organized all respondents' data needs into four categories of information: employer demand, workforce supply, intersection of supply and demand, and workforce and education services. The consultants then noted the most common questions posed by respondents within each category and presented a draft map of available data sources that could address those questions.

As a next step, the consultants indicated that they would develop specific recommendations for the development of a system by which the WIB could collect and disseminate workforce and economic information pertaining to New York City. The consultants reported that they would present their final recommendations to the Strategic Planning Committee at their next meeting on September 28, 2006.

Conclusion

Following the business described above, the meeting was adjourned.