

NEW YORK CITY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

August 27, 2009

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

MINUTES

Members in Attendance:

Rocco Damato	Stuart Saft
Reg Foster	Robert Walsh
Kathleen Kearns	

Also Present:

Tracie Abbott	Stephanie Martinez
Samantha Bernardini	Melinda Mulawka
Rebecca Brown	Chris Neale
Deborah Buyer	Deldreana Peterkin
Dana Cappell	Angela Tolosa
Chris Cesarani	Phil Weinberg
Angie Kamath	Matt White
Lea Kilraine	

Stuart Saft, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the May 13, 2009 Committee meeting were approved.

Introduction

Mr. Saft began the meeting by welcoming new WIB staffer Kate Yager who joined the staff as a Project Manager. In this position, she manages the activities of the Operator Consortium of the WIB, develops and manages stakeholder relationships in order to support local applications for Recovery grant opportunities, as well as screen and review external competitive grant applications prior to submission to the federal or state government. In addition, Kate supports the team by analyzing and providing recommendations on federal and state policies as the WIB works to strengthen its role in advocacy. Prior to joining to SBS, Kate worked as the Director of Economic Research for the Tennessee Technology Development Corporation, a state-funded non-profit organization in Nashville, TN.

Next, Mr. Saft explained that there were a number of approvals on the agenda that are related to the expenditure of the WIA Recovery Act funding. He noted that the board would be hearing about the new ARRA Contracted Trainings from Chris Neale, Executive Director for Sector Initiatives at the NYC Department of Small Business Services. He concluded by sharing that Melinda Mulawka Mack, Senior Vice President of the Workforce Investment Board will provide a brief overview of the 2009 Local Plan Modification required for submission to NYS.

President's Update

Phil Weinberg, President of the NYC Workforce Investment Board first shared with the members that the Deldreana Peterkin, Special Project Manager for the WIB will be updating and developing a new format for the WIB Wire member newsletter.

Next, Mr. Weinberg distributed the draft 2009 Action Plan for the WIB staff. He detailed that the Action Plan lays out twenty (20) priority actions the staff and board will be engaging to support the following goals:

- Policy leadership: Expand the WIB's role in driving workforce policy issues locally and nationally
- Business engagement: Strengthen the WIB's role as a vital link between NYC businesses and the public workforce system
- Revitalized board: Improve the quality, knowledge, and engagement of the WIB Members
- Increased stature: Increase the visibility and reputation of the WIB in NYC and nationally

He explained that in the coming weeks he will be reaching out to members to receive their feedback on Action Plan prior to presentation to the full board in December.

ARRA Contracted Trainings and Healthcare Sector Center

Chris Neale detailed the ARRA contracted trainings provided through SBS. Mr. Neale explained that the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding has enabled local areas to contract directly with institutions of higher education, such as community colleges to facilitate cohort training programs in high-demand occupations, provided that the training maintains customer choice. Members asked for additional detail to be provided to the board on requirements for courses.

Next, Mr. Neale presented SBS' strategy around Sector Based Career Centers, detailing the following key benefits,

- Jobseekers: higher wages, greater career advancement opportunities, and benefits,
- Employers: improvement in employer retention rates, productivity, and greater worker skills.

Mr. Neale shared the success of the systems' first sector center focused on transportation, and explained that the Center has performed at a higher rate than expected. Based on the success of the program SBS will be launching two additional sector centers in mid and late fall.

Finally, Mr. Neale provided an overview of the rationale in selecting the healthcare and manufacturing sectors. He described the expected launch dates, service provision, and key goals for both programs.

The Committee approved the resolutions for the ARRA Cohort Trainings and the Specialized Health Care Sector Center.

2009 LWIA Local Plan Modification

Melinda Mulawka Mack, Senior Vice President for the WIB reported to the Board the status of the NYC Local Workforce Investment Area modification to the three-year local plan. She detailed the due to the ARRA investment the NYS Department of Labor has requested a modification to local area plans. Ms. Mack requested the Board's authorization to submit the plan on behalf of New York City.

The Committee approved the resolution to authorize the submission of the WIA required modification to the three-year local plan.

The meeting was adjourned.