

## WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD QUARTERLY MEETING

110 William Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room  
New York, NY 10007  
Thursday, June 25, 2015  
8:30 – 10:30 AM

### MEETING MINUTES

#### Board Members Present:

Laurice Arroyo	Arnold Dorin	John Mogulescu
Eileen Auld	Sarah Haas (D)	Thomas Moloney
Horace Barker	Paloma Hernandez	Robert Purga
Amy Bennett	Caress Kennedy	Maria Serrano (D)
Scott Berger	Rae Linefsky	Sideya Sherman (D)
Les Bluestone	Joseph McDermott	Andre White (D)

(D) = Designee

#### Guests Present:

Faith Alexander	Kim Hernandez	Prestan Niblack
Gillian Bower	Leslie Hirsch	Deldreana Peterkin
Liz Brown	Megan Keenan	Chris Pinnisi
Mary Ellen Clark	Cynthia Keyser	Sharon Reed
Liza Ehrlich	Ted Latimore	Kate Schwab
Annie Garneva	Jessica Lau	Alissa Weiss
Katy Gaul-Stigge	Sara Marks	Shammara Wright
Reynold Graham	Jeff Martin	
Bret Halverson	Chris Neale	

#### WIB Chair Report

Horace Barker, WIB Acting Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed board members and guests. The WIB members joined Mr. Barker in welcoming Chris Neale as the Board's new Director.

Mr. Barker gave a brief overview of the agenda items, including the City's implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and reports from the Executive Committee and Youth Council.

## **Report from Katy Gaul-Stigge, Executive Director of NYC Mayor's Office of Workforce Development**

Katy Gaul-Stigge, Executive Director of the NYC Mayor's Office of Workforce Development (also known as "WKDEV" for short), provided the Board with an update on the activities of her office since the previous WIB meeting. Ms. Gaul-Stigge highlighted the Career Pathways Learning Lab, WKDEV's special event to augment the ability of leaders in workforce development to understand and implement career pathways programs. The event, which took place on May 4<sup>th</sup> at the CUNY Graduate Center, was co-hosted by the New York Association for Training and Employment Professionals and CUNY and sponsored by JP Morgan. WKDEV also partnered with the Center for Economic Opportunity and CUNY to launch "Building Bridges", a month-long professional development series on the design of bridge programs, which "bridge" the gap between the initial skill level of an individual and the requirements of an education or training program or a job by providing contextualized literacy. Such programs serve low literacy individuals who are not yet ready for college, training, or career-track jobs, provide contextualized literacy programs (with elements such as co-teaching and a sector focus), and track outcomes in both educational gains and employment, entry into skills training, or entry into college.

At a June 22 City Council Hearing on Adult Education, WKDEV provided testimony that highlighted the various adult education opportunities available to New Yorkers, including bridge programs.

In addition, Ms. Gaul-Stigge spoke about the launch of the Center for Youth Employment, a public-private partnership led by the Mayor's Fund, which will coordinate and expand efforts to connect New York City's young people to opportunities for career exposure, summer jobs, quality skills-building programs, supportive mentors, and thoughtful guidance towards college and a career.

On a national level, Ms. Gaul-Stigge shared that New York City is ready to implement WIOA on July 1<sup>st</sup>, and was particularly prepared to implement WIOA's requirement to spend at least 75% of its WIOA Youth funding on Out-of-School youth. Ms. Gaul-Stigge also shared that the City was invited to attend the Upskill Summit in Washington, D.C. The Upskill Initiative calls on businesses to help workers of all ages earn a shot at better, higher-paying jobs, even without a higher education. The event was also attended by WIB members 1199 SEIU Training and Employment Funds and Urban Health Plan.

### **Update from Chris Neale, WIB Director**

Chris Neale, WIB Director, provided the Board with an update regarding the City's readiness to implement WIOA and the comments the City submitted in response to the release by the U.S. Departments of Labor and Education of draft regulations in the spring of 2015.

Mr. Neale outlined the timeline for WIOA implementation, including the new performance indicators by which local workforce systems will be measured, which will take effect on July 1, 2016. In addition, the State will be required to submit a State Plan by March 3, 2016. The City will be required to develop a Local Plan, which must be in line with the State's Plan.

WIOA keeps many of the same governance structures, service elements, and financial reporting requirements in place as under WIA. However, WIOA does make some significant changes in policy and program design which the City is well positioned to implement. These include implementing industry partnerships and career pathways, for which the City has adopted as its strategy through its report Career Pathways: One City Working Together. In addition, WIOA requires of youth funding that at least 75% is spent on Out-of-School Youth and at least 20% is spent work experience. DYCD, which implements the City's youth WIA-funded workforce system, currently invests at levels close to these new requirements and will monitor its expenses closely to ensure compliance.

Mr. Neale noted that moving forward the WIB will update its by-laws, including its committee structure; coordinate with local partners of the four core programs to develop the local plan; and assess the physical and programmatic accessibility of the one-stop centers for people with disabilities.

Finally, Mr. Neale presented highlights of the City's responses to the federal government's draft regulations to implement WIOA, officially submitted on June 15. These comments argued for greater local flexibility, an expanded leadership role of the WIB, the need to baseline performance before implementing sanctions, and the need to encourage the use of bridge programs. On the same date, the City joined the Workforce Investment Boards of Chicago/Cook County, the City of Los Angeles and the County of Los Angeles to submit a joint letter in response to the draft regulations. These areas represent the four largest local workforce investment areas in the country. In the letter, the cities highlighted the complexity of local workforce development areas in large metropolitan areas and emphasized the need to maintain flexibility for how local areas can approach governance of their areas.

### **Executive Committee Update**

Mr. Barker provided the Board with an update regarding the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee met on February 24, 2015.

At the meeting, the WIB Executive Committee discussed the city's continued effort to improving job quality. SBS, which oversees the City's adult WIA-funded workforce system, will now only offer its recruitment services for those businesses which pay \$11.50 per hour or offer full-time work. From January 2015 to March 2015, the Workforce1 Career Center system has seen an increase in full-time placements to 59% from 41% as well as an average wage increase from \$11.00 an hour to \$13.23 an hour.

### **Youth Council Update**

Scott Berger, Youth Council Chair, provided the Board with an update regarding the Youth Council. The Youth Council met with the Youth Board on June 9, 2015. DYCD Commissioner Bill Chong shared many positive highlights for the agency. Over the past few months DYCD has held several citywide COMPASS events to provide additional enrichment activities for youth participants and to highlight their skills and talents. In addition, DYCD recently announced awards to several RFPs that were issued earlier this year, including the Comprehensive Afterschool System of NYC (COMPASS) elementary school-based and center-based RFPs; School's Out NYC (SONYC) programs in additional public school sites; and Neighborhood Development Areas, Immigration, and ESOL programs. The awardee lists are available on the DYCD website.

The Citizens' Committee for Children also provided the Council with an overview of its Community Risk Ranking. The Ranking provides a composite picture of the concentration of risks to child well-being among New York City's 59 community districts.

Finally, the Summer Youth Employment Program private employer campaign was highlighted, which is DYCD's effort to increase private employer worksites for the program. Based on the initial tally, DYCD will hit its goal of 200 new private sector worksites this year - DYCD will be able to report on the final number of worksites and jobs after the summer. The WIB, Youth Council, and Youth Board members contributed 15 worksites and 40 internship slots. Of those new sites, at least 5 WIB members committed to host a participant and at least 8 worksites were established through connections initially made through WIB members.

Mr. Berger also shared his experience as an SYEP worksite and encouraged other WIB members to participate as worksites in the program.

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

The WIB Acting Chair, Horace Barker, thanked the members and guests for attending the meeting. The meeting was adjourned.