

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD QUARTERLY MEETING

110 William Street, 4th Floor Conference Room
New York, New York 10007

Wednesday, September 18, 2014
8:30 – 10:30 AM

MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Laurice Arroyo	Ester Fuchs	Thomas Moloney
Elieen Auld	Celeste Gudas	Rose-Marie Mills (D)
Horace Barker	Sarah Haas (D)	Chris Neale (D)
Benjamin Branham (D)	Kim Hernandez (D)	Marin Olinda
Amy Bennett	Paloma Hernandez	Robert Purga
Scott Berger	Leo Hindery	Jocelynne Rainey
Les Bluestone	Caress Kennedy	Rose Rodriguez
Alan Cheng (D)	Deborah King	Netta Samroengraja
Mohammed Elkhashab	Rae Linefsky	Sideya Sherman (D)
Mark Elliott	John Mogulescu	Monica Slater-Stokes

Guests Present:

David Berman	Tom Hillard	Jennifer Oh
Doug Cotter	Jukay Hsu	Marjore Parker
Cinthia De La Rosa	Theresa Knox	Priya Ramanathan
Mary Ellen Clark	Sherazade Langlade	Katie Schwab
Monica Fey	Todd Levinson	Sharon Sewell
David Fisher	Bret Maherson	Ashley Smith
Blake Foote	Sara Marks	Margaret Stiy
Annie Garneva	Aliya Merali	Alison Verba
Katy Gaul-Stigge	Jeff Martin	Valerie Westphar
Reynold Graham	Anthony Ng	Alissa Weiss
		Scott Zucker

WIB Acting Chair, Horace Barker, Acknowledges Former Chair, Kathleen Kearns

Horace Barker, WIB Acting Chair, presented the Former Chair Kathleen Kearns with a letter from Mayor de Blasio thanking her for her service as WIB Chair. Under Ms. Kearns's leadership, the WIB has created and expanded economic opportunity for residents in all five boroughs and developed close working relationships with businesses and resources that connect New Yorkers to in-demand jobs. Ms. Kearns served on the WIB for ten years and served as WIB Chair for four years.

WIB Chair Report

Mr. Barker highlighted the Blasio administration's focus on serving low-income workers and provided an overview of many job quality issues workers face, including stagnant income levels and disruptive scheduling practices. Job quality is one of the three foundational pillars which grounds the work the Office of Workforce Development has undertaken in partnership with the Jobs for New Yorkers Task Force.

Mr. Barker also provided an overview to Bridging the Disconnect, a report composed by the Center for Urban Future, which highlights the obstacles some of the City's young people face to connect to skill-building resources and/or meaningful employment. Mr. Barker recognized the number of available opportunities for the WIB and agency partners to support young people, particularly in the Summer Youth Employment Program. Mr. Barker recommended the Executive Committee review the report's findings at their November meeting and provide the General Board with actions to approve of.

Deputy Mayor for Housing and Economic Development, Alicia Glen, Addresses the WIB

Deputy Mayor Alicia Glen welcomed the WIB, and thanked the nine new members of the WIB for their commitment to New York City's workforce. The new members include: Gina Argento, Eileen Auld, Amy Bennett, Mohamed Elkhashab, Palomas Hernandez, Leo Hindery, Caress Kennedy, Netta Samroengraja, and Monica Slater-Stokes. Deputy Mayor Glen highlighted the work of the Jobs for New Yorkers Task Force, including its vision for re-imagining the City's workforce system and its three pillars: Building Skills Employers Seek, Improving Job Quality, and Increasing System and Policy Coordination.

Deputy Mayor Glen also emphasized the national impact of the work the City will undertake, including Mayor Bill de Blasio's new role as Chair of the U.S. Conference of Mayor's Cities of Opportunity Task Force. Finally, Deputy Mayor Glen encouraged the WIB to provide constructive feedback regarding the Jobs for New Yorkers Task Force's recommendations to fundamentally transform the City's workforce system.

Sherazade Langlade, WIB Director, Provides WKDEV Update

Sherazade Langlade, Director of the Workforce Investment Board, provided the WIB with an update to the WIB's review of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), federal legislation recently passed by President Obama in July. WIOA calls for alignment between core programs and maintains the WIB's business majority. The WIB is convening a Citywide WIOA task force to process the legislation and eventually provide recommendations for implementation. The WIB also sits on the New York Association for Training and Employment Professionals working group and attends webinars and listening sessions provided by the U.S. Department of Labor. New York State is being considered for early implementation which would require the State to enact the legislation by July 2015.

Ms. Langlade also shared updates regarding the Local Plan, an annual plan required under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998. Sherazade invited WIB members and guests in attendance to comment during public comment period which ends September 29, 2014.

Ms. Langlade then highlighted the WIB's member orientation - the first time an orientation had been held in four years - which took place on September 12, 2014. The orientation provided an overview of the City's workforce system and WIB functions for new and existing members.

Action Item Approval

Mr. Barker then called for a motion to approve a number of action items. They include: meeting minutes from the December 2013, March 2014, and June 2014 Quarterly meetings; Fraud and Personally Identifiable Information policy resolutions; and resolutions designating Laurice Arroyo, Scott Berger, Jocelyne Rainey to the WIB Executive Committee and a resolution designating Scott Berger as WIB Youth Council Chair. The action items were unanimously approved.

Agency Partner Updates

Alan Cheng, Deputy Commissioner at the Department of Youth and Community (DYCD) provided DYCD's program update. Mr. Cheng highlighted the City's launch of 271 new SONYC (School's Out New York City) middle school program as a part of the Mayor's after-school and Universal Pre-K initiative. DYCD's Cornerstone program will also have an expanded in NYCHA centers across the City. Mr. Cheng also highlighted an increased participation in the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) as 10,700 additional slots were added. 47,000 young participated at over 8,000 different placements throughout the City. Mr. Cheng also noted that DYCD received a 6% increase in overall WIA funding. Finally, Mr. Cheng noted the Youth Council's new focus on engaging employers to participate in the Summer Youth Employment Program.

Chris Neale, Assistant Commissioner at the Department of Small Business Services (SBS) provided SBS' program update. Mr. Neale highlighted the agency's new policy to offer recruitment services to those businesses who offer their employees full-time hours or at least \$10/hr. The policy, enacted in April 2014, represents a shift to high-quality jobs. From April 2014 to June 2014 the percentage of full-time placements rose to 61% - the full-time placement rate was 40% from January to March 2014.

Executive Committee Update

Horace Barker, Acting WIB Chair, provided the Board with the Executive Committee update. The last Executive Committee meeting took place on August 18th, 2014. During the meeting the Committee reviewed Program Year 2014 WIA budgets for Adult and Dislocated Worker and Youth programs. The Committee also discussed plans for the WIB member orientation, which took place on September 12th, 2014.

Youth Council Update

Scott Berger, Youth Council Chair, provided the Board with the Youth Council update. The last Youth Council meeting took place on September 9, 2014. The meeting included many updates on recent DYCD initiatives, including SONYC, SYEP, Cornerstone, and the Youth Employment Workgroup as a part of the Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City. The meeting also focused on the DYCD's SYEP Jobs Campaign, which is focused on increasing the portion of private firms which participate in the program and encouraged Youth Council members to join the campaign.

Katy Gaul-Stigge, WKDEV Addresses the WIB

Katy Gaul-Stigge, Executive Director of the Office of Workforce Development, shared the Office's vision for how workforce development fits into Mayor de Blasio's agenda for reducing income inequality. Ms. Gaul-Stigge gave an overview of the workforce development system, including the almost \$500 million which the Office will realign to ensure upward income mobility for the City's residents. Ms. Gaul-Stigge also highlighted that the majority of the City's job growth has taken place in sectors which generally

provide low-wage work and few opportunities to advance. The office is shifting the City's workforce development strategy to a career pathways framework – an employer driven system focused on long term skill development, support services and sector based training – to help the city achieve this goal.

Ms. Gaul-Stigge then described the Jobs for New Yorkers task force, created by the Mayor, which will provide guidance around new strategies to create a system that builds the skills employers seek, improves job quality, and connects the workforce system to opportunities within economic development. The Task Force has also highlighted the need to create real-time feedback loops through sector-specific Industry Partnerships and implement common performance metrics among the City's various workforce agencies. The task force will help the Office of Workforce Development develop new strategies for systems change, while the WIB will be an ongoing advisory board that helps the office implement these wide ranging changes.

John Moguelscu, CUNY and Debbie King, 1199 SEIU, both members of the WIB and Jobs for New Yorkers Task Force, highlighted income inequality, creating jobs which lead to income mobility. Highlighted the role CUNY plays in competing against proprietary schools, continuing ed. Highlighted challenges for those with low-skills, importance of regular scheduling, especially in retail sector. Engaging businesses.

Debbie highlighted Medical Assistance Program through CUNY, partnered with SBS and NYACH. Challenges for CUNY in ensuring employment after attending CUNY.

Highlighted power of internships, how people are connected to work today. Issues connecting young job-seekers to employers. Job Corps. Importance of cultivating relationships with employers, so providers can best serve job seekers.

Amy Bennett – SBS ITG

WIB Meeting Wrap Up and Thanks

The acting WIB chair, Horace Barker, thanked the Office of Workforce Development for its engagement and outreach over the past few months.

The meeting was adjourned.