

Workforce Partnership of Greater Rhode Island

Board of Directors Meeting

May 12, 2009

Present: Steve Kitchin, Paul Ouellette, Pat Talin, Paul Harden, Michael Cassidy, Cynthia Farrell, Evaristo Amaral, Diane Cook, Vanessa Cooley, Bob Cooper, Joseph DeSantis, Alexis Devine, Joseph DiPina, Cynthia Farrell Raymond Filippone, Peter Koch, Dorothy Mattiello, Jane Nugent, Raymond Pingitore, Betty Pleacher, Fred Ricci, Nancy Roderick, Scott Seaback, Andrew Tyska, Kimberly Weiss, Steven Wilson

Guests; Thomas Fay, Mavis McGetrick

Staff: Christine Grieco, Diane Vendetti, Carlos Ribeiro, Janice Lepizzera, Jen Cornwell, Gail Dupont, Sharon Geoffrey, Lisa Rose

Absent: Allen Durand, Susan O'Donnell, Johan Uvin, Darrell Waldron

With a quorum present, Chair Steve Kitchin called the meeting to order at 8:09 AM and asked everyone to review the minutes from the previous meeting of April 14, 2009. Steve noted a couple of small corrections.

VOTE: Paul Harden moved to accept the minutes of the previous meeting and Betty Pleacher seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Steve Kitchin brought to the attention of the Board that there is now an organizational chart for the staff. He also noted the Board meeting schedule and standing committee schedule for Program Year 2009 were enclosed in the members' packets so that they may plan accordingly. Anyone is welcome and may attend these meetings.

Steve also gave the reminder that the Board of Directors Annual Breakfast Meeting would be held on the original Tuesday date of June 9th at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Warwick.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Christine Grieco reported that the one-year extension plan to go before the Governor's Workforce Board has been the main focus of work for the past weeks. At this time the 90% of necessary signatures are in her office and 3 copies with original signatures are needed. It will be ready to move forward when the last two of those are received. It is still in draft form until the approval of the board is received. The document has been carefully examined to meet federal requirements. The feds have put forward the idea to use the two-year plan that we already have, with a one-year extension. This will be acted on at the Governor's Workforce Committee meeting in June if approved by the Board. There was some discussion of this plan, waivers and modifications, schedules and timing.

VOTE: Bob Cooper motioned to adopt this One-Year Plan for PY 2009. Peter Koch seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Christine thanked Diane Vendetti for all the hard work she has done to prepare this document to come before the Board.

The Staffing for the ARRA Summer Youth to be covered by Stimulus funding is moving along well with 6 people interviewed for the four corporate Youth E & T Monitor positions, and 3 more to be interviewed May 13th. They will be hired, trained in GeoSolutions and placed in the youth centers soon.

We are waiting for the approval of the state for hiring 2 more monitors and 2 assistant coordinators. Those four individuals will be able to stay on through June, 2011 or until funding ends. The 4 corporate hires will continue to September 30, 2009.

Two spots are empty and one has been removed from the staff organizational chart. Dottie Miller has retired after staying on part-time while this organization was in transition. It would be noteworthy to do something special for Dottie at the annual meeting. Patrice Cavanaugh has received a promotion to work as a Senior E&T Interviewer at the Woonsocket netWorkri office.

COMMITTEE REPORTS;

Board Development Paul Ouellette reported that as Steve had said,

we will be holding an election at the annual meeting for the offices of Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and treasurer. Those elected will begin the next two-year term beginning July, 2009. Anyone with a recommendation or an interest in running for office, please speak to him. The Board Development Committee will meet on May 29th and would be happy to make those recommendations.

We are waiting for approval for the seven positions from the Governor's office. Paul is hoping to receive word before the June meeting. Several more business people have expressed interest in an opening. He hopes to have the Board filled by September. He also noted that Christine Grieco has been working hard on this on almost a daily basis and that Steve Kitchin has been having conversations to further this issue.

Strategic Development Paul Harden reported that CCRI has revised its training schedule, pushing back the recruitment process and shortening the training period somewhat. The very complex process of recruiting, screening and hiring is moving forward.

There is much activity in the field of marine trades about tuition, training and the vendors. Going forward, the committee will be looking at the performance of the training vendors, how people are trained and where they are placed. One of the concerns of those overseeing OJT is that at least 90% of people being trained should be receiving industry-recognized certificates. That makes a significant

impact.

Youth Council Cynthia Farrell presented two voting items. The first concerned ARRA. They received 18 proposals which were accepted, read, approved and rated by hard-working volunteers. . Some were then re-negotiate by Carlos Ribeiro in order to serve more youth. There is 2.2 million in available dollars. The original number to be served was 726 and we have found more youth to be served, raising the number to 892. We hope to be able to serve 1000 youth through this program. The Youth Council recommends that the Board vote to accept the 18 proposals for the ARRA Summer Youth Program. Joseph DiPina and Alexis Devine joined Steve Kitchin and recused themselves from discussion and voting on this issue.

Pat Talin noted that Carlos Ribeiro should be commended for the hard work on his part of handling this project. The Youth Committee had met late Thursday afternoon everything was ready for the Executive Committee meeting on Tuesday morning. Christine Grieco supported her assertion, mentioning how hard Carlos had been working.

There was discussion of the proposals and related issues, including what they entail , how they are decided upon and how they are rated, referring to the Proposals for Youth Workforce Services report in the packet.

VOTE: Cynthia Farrell made a motion for the Board to accept all 18 proposals for the ARRA Summer Youth Program. It was seconded by Paul Harden. The motion passed with three recusals.

WPGRI has uncovered another \$50,000 in JDF funds not spent in the prior year. Rather than fund more summer programs, they would like to fund a work experience program. MY TURN has the proposal they would like to fund because it would be able to provide a work experience program to serve 40 youth for \$50,000.

VOTE: A motion was made by Cynthia Farrell to add funding for the MY TURN program to serve 40 youth in a work experience program for \$50,000. The motion was seconded by Nancy Roderick. The motion passed with three recusals.

Quality Assurance Michael Cassidy reported that the committee will meet on May 19th. They are working on creating, scheduling and reviewing a format to monitor the netWorkri centers.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no old business brought before the Board.

NEW BUSINESS: There was no new business brought before the Board.

VOTE: Paul Ouellette motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 AM. Vanessa Cooley seconded the motion. The motion passed

unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Rose

Administrative Assistant