

Workforce Partnership of Greater Rhode Island

Strategic Retreat

September 15, 2011

Exeter Job Corps

Present: Vanessa Cooley, Bob Cooper, Marie DeRoche, Joseph DiPina, Carmen Ferguson, Kathleen Grygiel, Karen Jedson, Wendy Kagan, Steven Kitchin, Peter Koch, Sharon Lee, Dorothy Mattiello, Courtney Murphy, Susan O'Donnell, Paul Oullette, Raymond Pingitore, Betty Pleacher, Lauren Slocum, Robin Ann Smith, Darrell Waldron, James White, Paul Wielgus

Absent: Gip Cabral, Diane Cook, Joseph DeSantis, Alexis Devine, Allen Durand, Cynthia Farrell, Raymond Filippone, Victoria Gaillard-Garrick, Paul Harden, Joseph Oakes, Fred Ricci, Scott Seaback, Andrew Tyska

Staff: Christine Grieco, Carlos Ribeiro, Diane Vendetti, Kara Aniballi

Welcome to Board Members

With a quorum present Chair Steven Kitchin called the retreat to order at 12:20pm and thanked the Board Members for their attendance. Chair Kitchin introduced facilitator Jen Hetzel Silbert.

Welcome and Introductions of Staff et al

Director of Exeter Job Corps, Joseph DiPina, welcomed the Board to the facility. He stated Job Corps currently serves 200 youth ages 16-24 in academics and vocational training. The students in the culinary department prepared and served the Boards lunch.

Joseph DiPina proceeded to announce that Exeter Job Corps currently ranks #3 in the nation out of 124 Job Corps.

Chair of Youth Council

Chair Kitchin announced Chair of the Youth Council, Cynthia Farrell's, resignation. Although Cynthia is leaving the Youth Council she will remain on the Board of Directors.

Chair Kitchin requested the Board to vote on the confirmation of Gip Cabral as the Youth Councils new Chair. Gip represents the private sector.

VOTE: Paul Ouellette made a motion to confirm Gip Cabral as Chair of the Youth Council. Darrell Waldron seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Annual Plan budget extensions through October

Chair Kitchin stated at the Annual Board meeting on June 14, 2011 a request was made and voted upon by the Board to allow WPGRI to continue operations through the summer months at a level of 80% of the PY10 first quarter amount for 90 days pending an updated budget

at the September 13, 2011 Board meeting.

Chair Kitchin stated there will not be a September Board of Directors meeting and requested the Board to vote on the following: WPGRI staff continues to function through the month of October at the level of 80% of the PY10 first quarter amount for 30 days pending presentation of the PY11 budget to the Board at the October meeting.

VOTE: Robin Ann Smith made a motion to accept the above request. Darrell Waldron seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Retreat

Jen Hetzel Silbert began facilitating the group. She broke the Board down into 7 small groups of 3 and 4 members. Jen gave the group topics to discuss about WPGRI and the general workforce. She then asked each group to share what they brainstormed.

Jen then broke the small groups into 3 larger groups: Partnership Group, Employee Group, and Business and Employers Group. Each group was requested to continue the work they had done at the retreat and present what they have accomplished at the November 8, 2011 Board of Directors meeting.

Jen will draft a report for the Board on her findings and recommendations for WPGRI's Board.

Adjournment

Chair Kitchin motioned to adjourn the retreat at 5:00pm

VOTE: Darrell Waldron made a motion to adjourn the retreat. Paul Ouellette seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

Kara Aniballi