

GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE BOARD RHODE ISLAND
September 20, 2012

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

BOARD MEMBERS (*DENOTES NOT PRESENT)

Mario Bueno	Juana Horton (S)	Robert Nangle (S)
Robin Coia*	Constance A. Howes	George Nee
Ray DiPasquale (S)	Paul MacDonald*	Cathy Streker
Charles J. Fogarty (S)	William McGowan	Martin Trueb*
Deborah Gist (S)*	Brandon Melton	Pheamo Witcher
Mike Grey	Sharon Moylan (S)	

David Abbott, Deputy Commissioner, RIDE in attendance.

(S) denotes State Workforce Investment Board (SWIB) only

GWB Staff: Rick Brooks, Nancy Olson, Elizabeth Jardine, Dan Brown, Sherri Carello, Maureen Mooney

DLT Staff: Sue Chomka, Marie DeRoche, Diane Gagne, Diane Vendetti, Carlos Ribeiro, David Tremblay

Guests: Cheryl DaCosta, JoAnn Johnson, Tech Collective; Judy Jones, Economic Progress Institute; Ruth Ricciarelli, HARI; Robert Ricci, Mark Perrotti, Jim Glover, Anne Walsh, Richard Beneduce, Adrianna Goode, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston; Dante Del Guidice, RIC; Harsha Prakash, RIMES; Malcolm Baxter, BIS; Philip Less, Andrea Castaneda and Sharon Lee, RIDE; Paul Harden, RIEDC; Jen Cornwell, RIMTA; Robin Smith, CCRI; Sarah Griffen; Robert Bromley, Senate Fiscal; Heather Singleton, RI Hospitality; Jamie Sisto, Tri-Town; Amanda D'Alessio, Kayla Boss, Ellen D., Goodwill; Jason Vlaun, Craig Sipe, Sean Prim, Daniel Landry, Jason Cook, Gregory Hargis, Electric Boat; Paula Robinson Jones, Lifespan; Justin Waranis; Stump Olsen; Alaina Johnson, Stepping Up; Brian Chiaradio and Meghan Schweizer, netsense; Laura Lee Costello

Location: Conference room 73-1

Welcome and Call to Order

Chair Howes called the meeting to order at 8:06 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the Governor's Workforce Board meeting.

Meeting Minutes

Chair Howes asked if there was a motion to approve the minutes of the Governor's Workforce Board's meeting held on August 23, 2012.

VOTE on motion to approve: B. Melton moved to approve, seconded by C. Streker. All approved. Motion to vote passes.

VOTE to approve Governor's Workforce Board meeting minutes. All approved. August 23, 2012 meeting minutes approved.

Mary Ellen McQueeney Lally, DLT Legal Counsel, asked for declarations on any of the voting matters before the board for conflicts of interest. She explained that board members should avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest according to the RI State Code of Ethics. She stated that board members who disclose a conflict should both abstain from the vote and recuse themselves from any discussion. She explained that a conflict of interest disclosure form, available from GWB staff, should be completed.

Chair's Comments

Chair Howes mentioned the board retreat scheduled for October 3rd at the Save the Bay Center. She stated that the primary goal of the retreat is for the board to learn more about the current challenges in the economy and to develop a short list of priorities and a clearly defined focus and strategy for workforce development policy.

She mentioned that the 2013 board meeting schedule was available in the meeting packet.

Executive Director's Report

Chair Howes asked Rick Brooks to present the Executive Director's Report. R. Brooks provided an overview of the proposed Incumbent Worker Training Express Grants which he noted would be presented and discussed at the next Strategic Investments and Evaluation Committee meeting. He spoke of the FY2013 GWB Jobs Initiative as a follow-up to the 2012 pilot project which began with the Industry Partners. He also spoke of the proposed Innovative Partnership grants.

R. Brooks provided an overview of the connections and partnerships fostered by GWB staff by attendance at meetings and events. He noted some of these developing partnerships including Make It Happen, the Newport City Mentor Group, RI Student Loan Association, the Big Picture Company, and Broadband Rhode Island. He spoke of site visits to companies such as Rite Solutions and meetings with legislative leaders, policy staff and higher education leaders. He noted the continuing work with the Industry Partners, the Local Workforce Investment Boards, and the US Department of Labor for the Workforce Innovation Grant. He emphasized the importance of continuing to develop connections and partnerships to further the work of the GWB.

R. Brooks introduced Elizabeth Jardine, Chief of Program Development and Sherri Carello, Senior E&T Monitoring Specialist as new GWB staff members.

Board Retreat Overview

R. Brooks reviewed the logistics of the upcoming board retreat and the draft agenda which was available in the meeting packet. He stated that the primary focus for the retreat will be refining workforce development policy and developing recommendations to the legislature.

Biennial Plan Process

Chair Howes asked Sarah Griffin to review the process of the Biennial Plan noting this must be submitted to the state legislature by the end of September. S. Griffin reviewed information on the plan which included a review of federal and state spending allocations for the RI workforce development systems. She explained that the plan is based on a supply and demand framework and reviewed the data the second quarter of 2012 and for FY2012 workforce funding by education and skill level.

R. Brooks stated that a final draft of the Biennial report would be forwarded to the board in advance of the retreat. He stated that further discussion at the retreat will assist the board in identifying gaps both for skills and educational levels for jobs, in determining how RI is pending funding and in providing recommendations for funding strategies.

GWB FY2012 Jobs Initiatives

Chair Howes asked representatives from the Tech Collective and from Electric Boat to speak about the programs employing youth over the summer as part of the FY2012 GWB Jobs Initiative.

Information Technology Fellowship – Tech Collective

JoAnn Johnson provided an overview of the Information Technology Fellowship offered by the Tech Collective as part of the GWB FY2012 Jobs Initiative. Meghan Schweizer, Internet Marketing Consultant with netsense, spoke about the process behind the fellowship and of the positive experience for her company. Brian Chiaradio, a recent graduate of New England Institute of Technology spoke of his experience with the fellowship at netsense. He assisted with digital marketing, social media management, email marketing, sales calls and graphics. Brian indicated he was hired by netsense after completing the fellowship program. Chair Howes commended Tech Collective and netsense for their support of the Information Technology Fellowship.

Electric Boat Youth Employment Program – SENEDIA

Craig Sipes, Manager of Human Resources at Electric Boat, provided an overview of the summer youth employment program, and explained that youth are placed in individual work sites or in teams to match career interests if possible. He noted these are paid positions which are designed to develop educational and work readiness skills. C. Sipes introduced Sean Prim, Daniel Landry, Jason Cook, and Gregory Hargis who participated in the summer program and who were offered employment. Each spoke of their specific experiences. Amanda D'Alessio of Goodwill Industries provided an overview of the recruitment and placement process from the youth centers and spoke of the challenges encountered by the youth workers as well as their achievements. Chair Howes commended Electric Boat for the opportunity afforded the youth and their commitment to on the job training. She acknowledged Carlos Ribeiro, Anne Walsh, Adrianna Goode, Amanda D'Alessio and others not named for their commitment to youth and their work with youth programs.

Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Training Funds

Chair Howes asked David Tremblay to speak on the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) training funds. David Tremblay provided an overview of the declining funding available from WIA and the subsequent declining funding available for training. He mentioned the importance of the work associated with the Biennial Plan to assist with determining priorities in funding. He mentioned the recently awarded PACE grant and the Workforce Innovation Grant noting these were system change grants and not training grants. He briefly explained the various funding available through WIA such as Individual Training Accounts, On the Job Training, group training and customized training.

Committee Chair Reports

Chair Howes asked Brandon Melton to provide a report on the Career Pathways System Task Force (CPSTF). B. Melton reported that the task force met one week earlier and that an interim report on the work of the task force would be completed in the next couple of months. He stated that the two pilot programs (IT and Healthcare) have been

expanded to all Industry Partners. He noted that the CPSTF will meet again on November 8th.

Adjournment

With no further business, Chair Howes asked if there was a motion to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: W. McGowan moved to approve. S. Moylan seconded the motion.
The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Mooney