

Workforce Partnership of Greater Rhode Island

Executive Committee Meeting

May 5, 2009

Present: Steve Kitchin, Paul Ouellette, Pat Talin, Michael Cassidy, Cynthia Farrell,

Guests: Christine Grieco, Mavis McGetrick, Lisa Rose, Diane Vendetti

Absent: Paul Harden

With a quorum present, Chair Steve Kitchin called the meeting to order at 8:15 AM and asked everyone to review the minutes from the previous meeting of April 7, 2009.

VOTE: Michael Cassidy moved to accept the minutes of the previous meeting and Pat Talin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Steve Kitchin recently spoke to Deborah Smith regarding the appointments to the WPGRI Board of Directors. She had responded that they are working on it very slowly. A suggestion was made to craft a letter to the nominees regarding the fact that they have not yet been brought on board.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

An advertisement has been placed for the four summer Youth E & T Monitors and interviews will be conducted soon. Also, there are four state jobs that have been sent to the DOA for approval, with additional documentation to follow. There is a need to hire the four E & T Monitors soon so that they may be trained in the GeoSolutions system. Permission has been given to train them for this system along with present WPGRI staff. The cost will not be very high, given the number of people being trained.

The Draft WIA Plan will be presented to the WPGRI Board for approval at the May 12th meeting. The final WIA Plan will be presented to the WPGRI Executive Committee on June 2nd, then the full WPGRI Board on June 9th and the GWB on June 18th.

New staff members, Diane Vendetti and Lisa Rose were introduced to the Executive Committee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Board Development Paul Ouellette recently spoke to Holly Jensen of Fidelity and will be dropping off a packet for her that he has assembled. Even if all seven present nominees are approved, there is still one business person needed for nomination.

There was discussion of a possibility of having the Annual Meeting in the Hall of Fame room at NEIT on Wednesday, June 10th. Steve wants to check the minutes of the June, 2008 Annual Meeting to see if it is necessary to form a nominating committee for the next slate of officers.

Strategic Development Paul Harden was not present to report.

Youth Council Steve Kitchin recused himself from this portion of the meeting and any vote due to discussion of the ARRA Summer Work Experience proposals. The Executive Committee commended Carlos Ribeiro, his group and the Youth Council for bringing everything together and having it ready for today's meeting.

Cynthia Farrell reported that the numbers of youths to be served has increased. We are already much closer to the number of youths that we had been expecting to serve this summer. Even the lowest-scoring vendors have come in above the threshold and we are recommending them. Most vendors are in Northern RI and we also have good coverage in the East Bay, West Bay, Warwick, and South County. We are covering geographic areas that have not been covered before.

The netWORKri offices have been overwhelmed by those youth seeking jobs. DHS and DCYF have been helping. Ann Walsh had brought up the idea of identifying youth eligible for service and

simplifying the documentation process so that they may be served. If all programs are filled, we will be serving 892 youth. However, sometimes programs serve more than expected and we will not know for sure until they get under way.

At least 3 out of the 18 proposals are truly “green”. Specific points have to be met to be considered “green”. To those who may not know the criteria, a program might seem green that doesn’t meet the strict definition.

VOTE: Paul Ouellette moved to approve the ARRA Summer Work Experience proposal as presented. It was seconded by Mike Cassidy and was passed unanimously.

Cynthia proposed that MY TURN be funded with \$50,787 for a work experience program serving 40 more youth. MY TURN is centered in Newport and uses its connections and provides after-school work and training for youth and is a longer program. There was discussion of the program those served and funds used.

VOTE: Michael Cassidy moved to approve the funding for MY TURN. Pat Talin seconded and the motion was passed unanimously. Steve Kitchin had recused himself from the vote.

Quality Assurance Mike Cassidy reported that they were not able to get a quorum for the last meeting. A meeting has been planned for

May 19th at 10:00 AM and there is some concern about having a quorum for that meeting. There was some discussion about meeting attendance and member participation.

Steve Kitchin pointed out that nominations for the next Officers of the Board need to be made. Their tenure would cover two years, starting July 1, 2009. He charged the Board Development Committee with forming a nominating committee for those officers.

There was discussion of the audit and that it is in process.

There was discussion about the excellent work that Dottie Miller had done over the years. She has recently retired and it was suggested that her service be recognized by the Board. It was suggested that a citation may be obtained from the governor for her service. Chris Grieco has contacted Dottie's previous supervisors for something in writing to recognize her.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no old business to come before the committee.

NEW BUSINESS: There was no new business to come before the committee.

VOTE: Pat Talin moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 AM. Paul Ouellette seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for June 2, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Rose

Administrative Assistant