

**Workforce Partnership of Greater RI**  
***Executive Committee Meeting***

June 2, 2015  
RI Dept of Labor and Training  
1511 Pontiac Ave, Cranston, RI  
Room72-1

**Attendees:** Mr. Steve Kitchin (Chair), Mr. Paul Ouellette, Ms. Gail Patry, Ms. Lauren Slocum, Ms. Robin Ann Smith and Mr. Paul Wielgus.

**Staff:** Ms. Nancy Olson, Ms. Diane Vendetti

Mr. Kitchin called the meeting to order at 8:02AM and thanked everyone for coming.

**Minutes of May 5, 2015**

Mr. Ouellette made a motion to approve the minutes of May 5, 2015; Mr. Wielgus seconded the motion. The motion passed with Ms. Patry and Ms. Smith abstaining from the vote.

**Chairman's Report**

Mr. Kitchin reported that he participated in the annual comprehensive review of the One Stops by the Strategic Development and Evaluation Committee. Mr. Kitchin visited both the Woonsocket and Providence offices and thanked other Board members who volunteered their time as well. The Chairman also reported attending the GWB Annual Meeting on May 21.

**Executive Director's Report**

Ms. Olson reported signing a letter of support for the Disability Employment Initiative (DEI) Grant proposal submitted by DLT. The letter pledged the availability of WIOA funds for training of DEI participants should DLT receive the grant award.

GRI also partnered with Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston on a Health Partnership Opportunity Grant submittal to the Office of Health and Human Services.

The video is in the final editing stage and will be ready to present at the annual meeting. Ms. Olson is pleased with the quality of the video and thanked Sharon Geoffrey for her fine work on it.

Final preparations are being made for the annual meeting and Ms. Olson reminded Board members to RSVP if they have not already done so. She offered to provide an outline to committee chairs and to assist them with comments.

### **Strategic Plan Update**

Ms. Patry reported that the update summarizes the Board's accomplishments for the period. The Strategic Development and Evaluation Committee will be leading the effort to create a new plan in compliance with WIOA regulations. Mr. Kitchin suggested that GRI begin its planning process in advance of the State plan due date of March, 2016.

### **PY14/FY15 Fiscal Reports as of 3/31/15**

Ms. Slocum presented the reports and made a motion to approve as presented. Motion was seconded by Ms. Smith. The motion carried.

### **Vote: WIA Training Funds for Company Expansion**

Ms. Slocum made a motion to allocate up to \$260K of PY14/FY15 WIA funds for the purpose of providing customized training for a long-term RI employer in a growing industry sector to support the hiring of \_\_\_\_ unemployed Rhode Islanders into newly created positions with starting wages of \$15/hr and up to \$25/hr.

Mr. Ouellette seconded the motion. Discussion.

Ms. Olson stated that the company cannot be named at this time due to on-going negotiations with the RI Commerce Corporation regarding company expansion to include the creation of a production facility in RI. Ms. Olson also noted that the Governor may be making an announcement at the GRI Annual Meeting, provided that details can be worked out by that date. DLT is working with the employer to recruit qualified candidates.

After discussion the motion carried with Mr. Wielgus abstaining from the vote.

### **March Dashboard**

Ms. Patry presented the March Dashboard as reviewed by the Strategic Development and Evaluation Committee. Mr. Kitchin asked if seasonally adjusted unemployment data could be made available for comparison purposes.

### **WIOA Implementation**

Ms. Patry and Ms. Olson reported on the activities undertaken by the Strategic Development and Evaluation Committee regarding WIOA implementation. The committee is making some recommendations for changes in Board Membership and will present those to the Board for a vote at a later date. Ms. Patry reported that her committee reviewed a proposal from Bob Cooper and Kat Grygiel for the establishment of a Disability Committee. Ms. Olson reported that she will draft a letter to the Governor requesting designation of the Workforce Partnership of Greater Rhode Island as a Local Workforce Development Area. Executive Director qualifications were presented to the committee and Ms. Olson asked that comments be sent to her.

### **Committee Reports**

Board Development – no report

Strategic Development & Evaluation – Ms. Patry had nothing further to report.

Finance Committee – Ms. Slocum had nothing further to report.

Youth Council – Mr. Wielgus reported that the Youth Council voted on funding recommendation for WIOA.

**Meeting Adjournment – I didn't get who made the motion on this**

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Vendetti