

**GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE BOARD RI
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
DECEMBER 6, 2011**

MINUTES

Committee Members Present: Connie Howes, Ray Di Pasquale, William McGowan, Brandon Melton, Sharon Moylan

GWB Staff Present: Rick Brooks, Nancy Olson, Maureen Mooney

DLT Staff Present: David Tremblay, Sean Fontes, Val Lombardi, Laura Hart, Paul Genovesi

Others Present: Malcolm Baxter, BIS, Judy Jones, Poverty Institute

Location: RI DLT, Conference room 72-1

Chair Howes called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

A motion was entered to approve the minutes of the 9-7-11 Executive Committee meeting.

VOTE: B. Melton moved to approve, seconded by R. DiPasquale. All were in favor, the motion was approved.

Board Retreat Next Steps

Chair Howes referred to the meeting handout that summarized the notes from the flipcharts from the December 1st board retreat. She reviewed the notes for Part 1 – Scan of the Environment which contained feedback from Attachment A. She explained the 3 areas highlighted which included:

- Environmental scan and data by department which highlighted the facts on unemployment insurance, the workforce and employers in Rhode Island.
- Review components of the existing strategic plan (2009-2014) and prioritize the initiatives
- Focus on the criteria to be used for future funding

Chair Howes stated that no conclusions were reached from the retreat but the priorities discussed would be brought back to the board for discussion and action. She asked committee members for comments and changes on the retreat summary.

Prioritize Objectives and Strategies

Chair Howes referred to Attachment B: Prioritizing Short-term Objectives for GWB. She mentioned that the board was divided into 3 groups to rate each of the objectives of the Strategic Workforce Plan to determine the highest, short-term priorities for the GWB. She indicated that Attachment B shows the end results of the voting by table and noted the ratings for the specific objectives.

A discussion of the priorities identified in Attachment B followed. Comments included:

-Youth with credentials related to the high school degree must have the skills to graduate.

-Post secondary remediation

R. DiPasquale stated that achieving the goal of having youth have the skills to enter college without remediation is a long term goal and that it will not happen within the next 3 years. He stated that that the percentage of entering freshmen who require remedial education increased from 70% to 75%. There was discussion on the issue of addressing remedial education as a priority for GWB funding.

It was suggested that the Executive Committee review the board retreat information and present a complete summary to the full board, which will drive the next steps. One step is for the Board to prioritize funding initiatives for the remainder of this fiscal year as well as FY13.

It was recommended that each committee review the goals and objectives as identified in Attachment B and offer comments and suggestions on implementation.

Discussion of Current Board Committees

Chair Howes asked for comments on combining some of the current GWB committees. After discussion, it was recommended that the Strategic Investments Committee and the Planning and Evaluation Committees be combined. Combining these two committees would provide oversight and enhancement of the decision-making process for funding as well as evaluation of programs and policy.

There was discussion about establishing a GWB Business Committee which would be composed of board members with the purpose of identifying the needs of employers, advocating for Job Development Funds (JDF) and obtaining relevant information from the business community. N. Olson offered that the resources of the Industry Partners would be of value to this committee. Chair Howes noted that the Executive Committee would make a recommendation to the board on the GWB Business Committee.

Chair Howes asked if there was a motion for the creation of the GWB Business Committee stating that this committee would identify the needs of employers, receive input from business and labor board members and advocate for the JDF. The Industry Partners would be part of the function of this committee. A motion was entered to approve the recommendation as stated to create the GWB Business Committee.

VOTE: S. Moylan moved to approve, seconded by R. DiPasquale. All were in favor, the motion was approved.

Chair Howes asked if there was a motion to approve the recommendation to combine the GWB Strategic Investments Committee and the Planning and Evaluation Committee. The committee would be renamed the GWB Strategic Investments and Evaluation Committee.

VOTE: B. Melton moved to approve, seconded by W. McGowan. All were in favor, the motion was approved.

Chair Howes asked if there was a motion to approve the recommendation to move the functions of the GWB Board Development Committee to the GWB Executive Committee.

VOTE: R. DiPasquale moved to approve, seconded by B. Melton. All were in favor, the motion was approved.

Committee Work Assignments

Chair Howes stated she would be working on committee assignments and re-assignments.

Adjournment

With no further business, Chair Howes asked for a motion to adjourn.

VOTE: R. DiPasquale moved to approve, seconded by B. Melton. All approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:24 a.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Mooney