



GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE BOARD RI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 6, 2015

Committee Members Present: Constance Howes, Mike Grey, Martin Trueb, Monica Dzialo,
GWB Staff Present: David Tremblay, Kristen McKenna, Pat Pelletier, Mavis
McGetrick
DLT Staff Present: Sean Fontes
Other Guests Present: Malcom Baxter
Location: RI DLT, Conference room 73-2

Call to Order

Chair Howes called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Howes asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 6, 2015 Executive Committee meeting.

VOTE: Martin Trueb moved to approve, seconded by Mike Grey. All were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

WIOA Policy Discussion

Chair Howes began by asking the committee to be mindful of supporting the Governor's agenda for Real Jobs Rhode Island (RJRI). Chair Howes suggested using the meeting discussion as a lense as to what can be done within the limits of the Federal law to support that. M. Trueb expressed that it would be helpful if at the board retreat if the Governor could share how the Governor's Workforce Board, Real Jobs Rhode Island and Commerce integrate together.

Eligible Training Provider Policy

David Tremblay explained to the committee that the Eligible Training Provider Policy is a significant transition for the ETPL. The Board has a specific role as it relates to ETPL policy. The governor needs to determine criteria for eligibility for training providers in consultation with the Board.

D. Tremblay pointed out the outline in the committee's packet describing Eligible Training Provider criteria, eligibility and requirements & procedures. He noted the importance of the eligibility piece being in place by the end of the year as it has an impact on RJRI when their providers will be added to the ETPL.

D. Tremblay explained the means of establishing initial and continuing eligibility to the committee in accordance with WIOA. D. Tremblay mentioned several meetings he has had with J. Purcell, the Commissioner of Higher Education who is interested in training programs on the ETPL being entirely credentialed or overseen by his office, as it relates to college level programs. The reason for this would be for a person to be in a program leading to a credential is on a career path and is stackable; he would like the credit to lead to post secondary credential.

M. Trueb expressed concern with becoming over obsessed with college credentials.

D. Tremblay noted that as RJRI comes on line in November that their training providers are able to meet eligibility and it is clear to them. What is important and immediate and in the realm of the

Board is what emerges from the Real Jobs Partnership Implementation Grants. D. Tremblay noted that the partnerships that are awarded Implementation grants are essentially sectors.

D. Tremblay went on to explain continued eligibility to the committee which relates to performance of the providers. D. Tremblay explained the eligibility requirements to be developed by the state in accordance with WIOA. D. Tremblay reported that the governor, in consultation with the Board, can add additional criteria and requirements. D. Tremblay gave an examples; higher weight could be added to providers through the Real Jobs process, or if the provider has a relationship with employers or offers work readiness.

Chair Howes questioned if you could consider the population served, those with barriers to employment? D. Tremblay stated that this is a hallmark of WIOA.

D. Tremblay mentioned that providers could be held to a performance standard. M. Trueb expressed that holding a high standard may stop trainers from accepting anybody who may not be able to hold up to a high standard. D. Tremblay said that with WIA, training providers were not held to performance standards.

A conversation ensued regarding turning data into useful information – data is as good as the definition. The definition of a person with a barrier or disability could mean several things.

Chair Howes commented that in the past the focus was on the population served, compliance with the requirements, value from the providers and performance but now the charge has shifted to a demand and employer driven focus with as much flexibility as can be built into the strictures of the law.

D. Tremblay explained that a new provision of WIOA is that wages of all students in a training program be reported for the second and forth quarter following exit from the program and the best way of collecting wages hinges on Social Security numbers. Chair Howes stated that longitudinal data is needed to know the effectiveness of what is done in education, and to know what the post secondary training is, who the participants are and is there a return on investment.

Adjournment

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

VOTE: Mike Grey moved to approve, seconded by Martin Trueb. All were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Pelletier