

Workforce Partnership of Greater Rhode Island

Strategic Development Committee Minutes

June 1, 2009

Present: Jane Nugent, Everett Amaral, Susan O'Donnell, Betty Pleacher, Fred Ricci, Nancy Roderick, Bob Cooper, Kim Weiss.

Guests and Staff: Christine Grieco, Mavis McGetrick, Jen Cornwell, Lisa Rose.

Absent: Paul Harden, Allen Durand.

With a quorum present and in the absence of Chair Paul Harden, Vice Chair Jane Nugent called the meeting to order at 8:40 AM. She asked everyone to review the minutes from the meeting held on May 15, 2009.

VOTE: Bob Cooper motioned to accept the minutes from the May 15, 2009 meeting. Betty Pleacher seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Jane Nugent told those present that the committee had been brought together regarding two ISDI contracts that will be ending soon. My Turn's ISDI contract will end on September 30, 2009 and Tech Collective will end on August 30, 2009. Their current contracts state that successfully performing contracts may be renewed in one year increments. A vote needs to be taken to recommend re-funding for

year 2. Jen Cornwell explained that once it is determined how much money will be allocated to re-fund the current contracts, the remaining money will be used to fund additional industries through an RFP process. This vote is contingent upon the approval of the Governor's Workforce Board budget on June 18, 2009.

Jen Cornwell presented the committee with outcomes as of May 15, 2009 from My Turn and Tech Collective. Tech Collective is on track to meet all or most of their outcomes. There were some questions regarding projected wage gains and promotions. Jen Cornwell explained that many of the companies are reporting that they are not giving any raises this year. She also explained that many companies conduct reviews on an annual basis. As a result, Tech Collective will be reporting wage gains and promotions on a quarterly basis.

Jen Cornwell also reported My Turn's outcomes. Although they went above and beyond what they were contracted for in the Greenhouse Activities, the industry struggled in the training component. Due to the slow down in the Marine Trades industry and the late release of the training funds, My Turn is behind in their training outcomes. They have requested and were granted an extension through September and are confident that they will be able to complete all training outcomes. Some of the committee members questioned the possible use of training dollars for other activities. Jen explained that the training funds are separate from all other funds and are used for reimbursement after training has been completed. The committee

also questioned RIMTA's involvement in the ISDI. There were some questions about an education foundation being developed and its relationship to ISDI. Jen was unsure of the progress that has been made with this. Betty Pleacher suggested that we speak to Andy Tyska who should be familiar with this. He and Wendy Mackie may be asked to attend the next committee meeting.

The committee was presented with proposed budgets for next year from My Turn and Tech Collective. My Turn proposed a budget of approximately \$409,000 and Tech Collective proposed approximately \$543,000. The committee also received a chart showing the breakdown of funds.

VOTE: After much discussion, Bob Cooper made a motion to recommend funding for Tech Collective as presented today. Betty Pleacher seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

VOTE: Bob Cooper made a motion to put re-funding for My Turn on hold until the end of the summer. At the next meeting, the committee will be presented with updated outcomes and if appropriate, recommend year 2 funding for My Turn. Betty Pleacher seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

There was no new business to discuss.

Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

Bob Cooper motioned to adjourn the meeting. Betty Pleacher seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Rose

Administrative Assistant