

GNB Workforce Investment Board, Inc.
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 16, 2009
4:30 PM
Fairhaven Home Care Conference Room
Southcoast Hospitals Group
Fairhaven, MA

Members Present: David DeJesus, Jr., Chair; David Cabral; John Fernandes, David J. Ferreira (sent written Proxy), Richard F. Mello, Peter Muise, Christopher J. O'Neil, Maria O. Pinarreta, Charles R. Simpson, Jr. (sent written Proxy)

Members Absent: Ronald F. Rheume (called)

WIB Staff: Bridget Alexander, Len Coriaty, Jean Fox, Annie Massicotte

Workforce Development System Staff: Ed Dennehy, New Directions Southcoast; Joseph Notini, DCS

1) Chair's Welcome

Chair DeJesus called the meeting to order at 4:40pm.

Mr. DeJesus announced that he received written proxies from David J. Ferreira, and Charles R. Simpson, Jr.

2) Consent Agenda

The **Minutes** of the 8/13/09 Executive Committee meeting and the **WIB Treasurer's Report** through 8/31/09 were unanimously approved upon a motion made by John Ferreira and seconded by Richard Mello.

3) REPORTS

Executive Committee

Chair DeJesus mentioned that he and Len are scheduled to meet with the Mayor on Tuesday, 9/22. He also stated how he'd begun holding weekly meetings with Len and Vice Chair Maria Pinarreta. Some of the topics discussed were:

- Youth Summer Jobs, ARRA Spending projected to be about 87% by 10/2.
- RE: Set Aside funds for Alliant and Acushnet Company laid off workers, traffic at the GNB Career Center has been below expectations. Ed mentioned that Acushnet Company put in for 169 employees. Although he expected to see 90 – they only saw 20-25 at the Career Center. Ed also mentioned that Union Wear hired 15 people, and will possibly hire up to 100 more by September.
- State Rapid Response Office has approved a Set-Aside request for Alliant Tech / Acushnet Company. They have agreed to release ½ of the requested amount and revisit at a later date.
- Retreat Report Out and Recommendations for Priority Populations & Industry Sectors – To be consolidated and out to retreat participants, F&PM Com, Ex Com, and WIB for review and comment. Next step: Outreach to other stakeholders as discussed at retreat; ID the elements for the Scorecard.
- High Performance Workforce Board Certification – Undersecretary will put together questions/areas of focus to address when reapplying. The WIB is not bound to October submission date for Round III.
- A New Member Orientation will be scheduled for October.

John Fernandes mentioned TRADE money – he asked Ed if it's reimbursable. Ed stated not TRADE money, but NEG money would be.

Finance and Performance Measurement

Peter Muise stated that the Executive Committee and Leadership Retreat was well attended and well run.

Mr. Muise went over the package discussed at the Finance and Performance Measurement Committee. He asked for a motion to accept the recommendation on Priority Populations/Industries. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by John Fernandes, and seconded by Maria Pinarreta to accept the recommendation with 2 minor changes that clarified timelines. Passed unanimously.

A list of the recommended ABE/ESOL/GED and Energy Awardees was distributed. After a brief discussion a motion was made by Peter Muise, and seconded by Maria Pinarreta to accept the recommended awardees as put forth before the Finance and Performance Measurement Committee. The motion passed; John Fernandes and Ed Dennehy recused themselves from the vote. Chair DeJesus noted that the full WIB's ratification of the Executive Committee is not because it's necessary, but rather, to educate and communicate with Board members what is going on behind the scenes.

Business Development Committee

Chris O'Neil announced that he met with Bridget last Friday and they discussed having the Business Development committee revisit the Marketing Plan. They also discussed the Plan to change the website, and they expect to bring the issue forward soon for a vote.

He also mentioned that Bridget has the Pathways To Family Success 2010 grant back on track after the loss of the *LiteracyWorks* Entrepreneur. Bridget stated the Business Development Committee has agreed to assume responsibility to support the *LiteracyWorks* Cabinet and plans to hold 2 meetings per year.

Youth Council

John Fernandes stated that Youth Council needs to secure relationships with more Private Sector people to work toward finding better jobs with benefits. Chair DeJesus asked how can the Youth Council make youth more aware of employment opportunities and eligibility. John went on to state, "It's frightening .. youth in this area have a lack of dream. It's harder to change a bad behavior than to focus of a new one." Chris O'Neil mentioned that he agrees with what Peter said at the retreat, why not advertise a specific company name, versus WIB, when holding a summit, etc. – which is much more likely to be recognized and might bring in better attendance.

Peter Muise stated the Human Resource Council meet on a monthly basis and has access to large employers. Ed Dennehy stated he is on that Council.

John mentioned the Monitoring report that Steve had distributed at the Finance and Performance Measurement committee. He felt it showed great statistics. Chair DeJesus said he would like to bring these statistics to the next meeting that he and Len have with the Mayor.

4) DISCUSSION TOPICS

Executive Committee Scorecard

Chair DeJesus stated that all committees will report out on their committee activity via the Scorecard for the next 10/21 Executive Committee meeting. The point is to anchor our monthly reports with our goals and planned activities. WIB staff will work with committee Chairs.

5) OTHER BUSINESS

Len introduced a hot item – the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) expired about 5 years ago. It looks like Congress will reauthorize the law this year. Len distributed an overview. The intention is to weigh in with different members of Congress, most notably Congressman John Tierney whom will be the special guest at the MA Workforce Board Association meeting on October 5, 2009. Len Coriaty and Chuck Simpson will be in attendance (in Salem), 9:30a to 11:30a. Len will get a copy of the invite to WIB members. If anyone can attend it will help to show Board support. Secretary Bump, and the Governor are also expected to be in attendance.

Len also mentioned that the National Association for Workforce Boards (NAWB) is scheduled for 3/6/10 through 3/09/10. Len will be distributing more information, and he stated that new members have come back energized. Representatives from 600 Boards nationwide attend – approximately 1,600 to 1,800 people. Dave thinks there is definitely value in attending. Marie Pinarreta attended last year and was very impressed.

6) ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, upon a motion by Mr. O'Neil and seconded by Mrs. Pinarreta. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Annie Massicotte
Business Office Manager