

GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE BOARD RHODE ISLAND

Board Retreat

Save the Bay Center, Providence

October 3, 2012

12:00 noon – 4:30 p.m.

BOARD RETREAT MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

BOARD MEMBERS (*DENOTES NOT PRESENT)

Mario Bueno	Juana Horton (S)	Robert Nangle (S)
Robin Coia	Constance A. Howes	George Nee
Ray DiPasquale (S)	Paul MacDonald	Cathy Streker*
Charles J. Fogarty (S)	William McGowan	Martin Trueb
Deborah Gist (S)*	Brandon Melton	Pheamo Witcher
Mike Grey	Sharon Moylan (S)	

(S) denotes State Workforce Investment Board (SWIB) only

Others in Attendance

David Abbott, Deputy Commissioner, RIDE
The Honorable Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor
Kelly Mahoney, Governor's Office
Bill Parsons, RI Economic Development Corporation
Paul McGreevy, RI Economic Development Corporation
Armeather Gibbs, RIEDC
Abby Swienton, Governor's Office
Neil Steinberg, RI Foundation
Jessica David, RI Foundation
John Simmons, RIPEC
Ashley Denault, RIPEC
Robert Ricci, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston
Malcolm Baxter, BIS
Sarah Griffen, Facilitator

GWB Staff: Rick Brooks, Nancy Olson, Elizabeth Jardine, Dan Brown, Sherri Carello, Maureen Mooney

DLT Staff: Lisa D'Agostino, Sue Chomka, David Tremblay, Matt Weldon, Donna Murray, Sean Fontes

Location: Save the Bay Center, 100 Save the Bay Drive, Providence

Welcome

The Honorable Lincoln D. Chafee welcomed everyone and provided brief remarks.

Opening Remarks

Chair Howes welcomed everyone and asked each attendee to introduce themselves to the group. She provided an overview of the goals of the retreat. Rick Brooks provided an overview of the agenda and expected outcomes.

Emerging Views and Initiatives related to the Economy

John Simmons, Executive Director of the RI Public Expenditure Council (RIPEC) spoke generally about the recommendations for restructuring the state's efforts to stimulate the economy.

Neil Steinberg, President & CEO of the Rhode Island Foundation (RIF) and Jessica David, Vice President of Planning and Special Projects for the RIF spoke about their current work, what it entails and why it matters. They provided feedback from the recently held Make it Happen RI forum.

Biennial Plan/ Laying the Groundwork for the Future

Sarah Griffen, facilitator for the retreat, provided an overview of the Biennial Plan process. She noted that the GWB has the responsibility to prioritize needs and related funding within the workforce system based on the Biennial Plan analysis. She presented the key data and gap analysis and provided the background behind the table work to be done by the board.

S. Griffen indicated that the goal for each table would be to identify 5-7 priorities for future investment in the workforce system. She indicated this would involve reviewing the document that cross walks the GWB Strategic Plan, last year's GWB priorities and the Biennial Plan. She mentioned that each table could indentify and include other objectives not on the list. She stated there would be a group discussion of the implications of these priorities for Rhode Island's workforce system.

Sarah Griffen introduced an exercise which would assist in the review of the top ten priorities established by all tables. This involved each group working together to decide how to spend an "unofficial" \$10 million which could be spent in increments of \$1M. She indicated that the end result of the exercise would assist in the development of the priorities and that each table would explain the strategy and thinking behind the choices.

Next Steps

Rick Brooks stated there is a tight timeframe for the Biennial Plan which is due on October 31st. He indicated that the board is invited to join a working group which will turn the priorities developed from the retreat into focused recommendations for implementation. He mentioned this work will assist in the development of an overall funding plan and may involve a shift of the priorities. R. Brooks stated he will send out by email the dates of 2 work group meetings that will occur before the October 18th board meeting.

Governor Chafee thanked the board for their work and suggested that the October board meeting be held at the Providence Career and Technical Academy.

The meeting ended at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Mooney

*GWB Board Meeting
10-3-12*