

GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE BOARD RI
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 2, 2012

MINUTES

Committee Members Present: Brandon Melton, Chair, Robin Coia, Sharon Moylan, Martin Trueb

Committee Members Absent: Ray DiPasquale

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

DLT Staff Present: Maureen Palumbo, Chris Grieco, David Tremblay, Carlos Ribeiro

Others Present: Robert Ricci and Ann Walsh, Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston; Sharon Miles, CCRI; Malcolm Baxter, B.I.S.

Location: RI DLT, Conference room 73-2

Chair's Call to Order

Chair Melton welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

Minutes of the Youth Development Committee

Chair Melton asked for a review of the meeting minutes of the 12/7/11 Governor's Workforce Board Youth Development Committee (YDC). He asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes.

VOTE: M. Trueb motioned to approve the minutes of the Youth Development Committee meeting as presented. R. Coia seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

GWB Strategic Planning Retreat – Follow Up

Chair Melton reviewed the priorities identified from the December 2011 board retreat relating to goal 4 of the State Strategic Plan which is: Youth are Ready for Work and Lifelong Learning. He noted the objectives in the order prioritized at the retreat which were:

- Increase Access to Work-Preparedness Activities
- Increase Youth with Credentials
- Decrease Postsecondary Remediation Rate

He asked committee members to keep these goals in mind as they related to the subsequent agenda items. He asked for comments on the priorities mentioned. R. Brooks stated the work from the retreat was a starting process and that the Strategic Investments Committee will drill down the funding criteria in a meeting next week. He noted that all board members are invited to attend. M. Palumbo mentioned work currently in progress with RIDE (RI Department of Education) relating to the priorities identified. She mentioned the development of a work readiness credential and with embedding work readiness into the school curriculum (by 2014).

PY2013 Youth Center Funding Request - \$350K

Chair Melton asked Maureen Palumbo to provide an overview of youth funding prior to the request. M. Palumbo referred to the handout entitled "Seven Year Snap Shot" which details information of the number of youth served, the number of at risk youth, vendors, programs, funding sources and leveraged dollars from PY2005 through PY2011. She noted that the total number of youth served for contract year 2011-2012 was 7,791.

Chair Melton asked R. Ricci from Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston to comment on how the youth centers fit with the priorities previously mentioned. He explained that WIA serves the most at risk youth and provides more intensive services. He noted that the JDF provides the flexibility for an all youth agenda therefore more youth are served.

Chair Melton asked C. Grieco from the Workforce Partnership of Greater RI for her comments. She stated that the impact on the youth centers would be significant without the JDF funds and noted that 1 in 10 youth are served by WIA funds. She asked Carlos Ribeiro to provide an overview of the services and programs of the youth centers. Ann Walsh of Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston also provided examples of successful programming and outcomes of the centers.

A discussion followed on the time period of the funding request. It was noted that in previous years, the request covered the period of July 1st of the fiscal year through March which required an additional request to the board for the period of March through June. R. Brooks commented that it would be helpful for both the Strategic Investments Committee and the board to know of the distribution of funding sources as well as other sources of funds. Chair Melton suggested to C. Ribeiro that it might be helpful to provide statistics on the youth served at the centers.

With no further discussion, Chair Melton asked if there was a motion to recommend funding for the youth centers.

VOTE: M. Trueb motioned to recommend funding in the amount of \$350,000 as a minimum and \$450,000 as a maximum to fund the Youth Centers for the full fiscal year period of July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013. S. Moylan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

It was noted that this request would be brought before the Strategic Investments Committee at the March 1st meeting.

PY2013 Summer Work Experience Program \$1M

Chair Melton asked Maureen Palumbo to provide information on the summer work experience program prior to the funding request. M. Palumbo noted that last summer approximately 670 youth were served statewide at more than 200 work sites. She noted that the work assignments followed a six week model and included such topics as career exploration, portfolio development, academic tutoring and other work readiness components. R. Ricci added that this summer a financial literacy component would be added to the curriculum. She noted that youth workers were paid \$7.40 per hour and worked 20 hours per week.

With no further discussion, Chair Melton asked if there was a motion to recommend funding for the Summer Work Experience Program.

VOTE: R. Coia motioned to recommend funding in the amount of \$1M for the Summer Work Experience Program. M. Trueb seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

Youth Summit – Update

Chair Melton asked Maureen Palumbo to provide an update on the upcoming youth summit. M. Palumbo reported that the first of two summits is tentatively scheduled for the morning of April 25th. She indicated that Lifespan has provided a professional facilitator and that R. Ricci has offered the meeting space and morning refreshments. Participants of the public sector will be invited to attend this summit. M. Palumbo mentioned that a second summit is scheduled for the fall and that stakeholders from the private sector will be invited.

CCRI – GED Information

Maureen Palumbo introduced Sharon Miles, Director of Adult Education at the Community College of RI. S. Miles reported on current GED requirements, noting they are not currently aligned with high school graduation requirements. She provided statistics and practices of the GED program and noted that on January 1, 2014 the GED becomes an online exam. She reported that the GED is recognized by 95% of colleges as a valid credential.

New Business

Chair Melton asked Maureen Palumbo discuss the new business items. She reported on the Van Buren Charitable fund, and the RI After School Plus Alliance. She asked that the concept of highlighting youth services at the GWB annual meeting be brought to the Executive Committee next week. Chair Melton announced that Maureen Palumbo would be retiring at the end of March and thanked her for her service to youth services.

Adjournment

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

VOTE: M. Trueb moved to approve. R. Coia seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Mooney