

**GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE BOARD RI**  
**YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**  
**OCTOBER 23, 2014**

**MINUTES**

Committee Members Present: Robin Coia, Chair, Timothy Byrne, Sharon Moylan, Monica Dzialo

GWB Staff Present: Rick Brooks, Sherri Carello, Dan Brown

DLT Staff Present: Nancy Olson, Carlos Ribeiro,

Others Present: Anne Walsh, Adrianna Dextrateur, Carlos Pedro, Stump Olsen, Jen Cornwell, Justin Waranis, Steve Dolce, Craig Baker, Randie King, Brian Hannon, Deana Pecchia, Hillary Salmons,

Location: RI Department of Labor & Training, Conference room 73-1

**Chair's Call to Order**

Chair Coia welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 8:35 am.

**Minutes of the Youth Development Committee**

Chair Coia asked for a review of the meeting minutes of the 7-14-14 Governor's Workforce Board Youth Development Committee (YDC). She asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes.

**VOTE:** S. Moylan motioned to approve, seconded by T. Byrne. All were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion on Labor Institute Workshops:**

*Survey was distributed to the group*

Chair Coia noted that the survey being discussed was very important and that she would like to get feedback from the Committee. Chair Coia referred to Anne Walsh to discuss a combined feedback report by the workforce board. Anne commented that people were very pleased with the survey but believe it could have been broken up a little bit more. Chair Coia thanked Anne Walsh for putting this together. Chair Coia ask the group what they believed was the best way to get additional input. The group had an open discussion and agree that the Committee should work together. Judge Healey from the Workers' Compensation Court attended several of the seminars that were held. Chair Coia commented that having the judge there was of great importance as this was something he did on weekly basis. The judge was very responsive to the work of the seminar. Chair Coia personally felt it was nice to see the judge away from the bench and for him to be able to meet with the youth one on one. The youth appreciated having him there. Chair Coia has the opportunity to attend the Boys and Girls Club summer program in Providence. She though it was important for employers to be aware of what each youth are capable of. Chair Coia noted that this is something she can bring back to the institute to keep the youth focus. Tim Byrne commented on the interaction of the employer relationship with the youth and how he would like to see more of that. The group asked if any survey, evaluation or feedback were done with the youth. The response was yes. The youth did a one on one "Survey Monkey." It allow them to make comments and 30-40% made comments regarding how they the

program could be made better. Chair Coia would like to have the institute come in to share their experience as well. The group went on to say that the feedback was positive and this was money well spent. The program was a good investment. Chair Coia would like to see this done on a regular basis – perhaps once a month at the youth center. The group also discussed shortening the program and packing more work readiness into it. Tim Byrne noted that this could be broken out section by section so it doesn't get boring for the youth. The group suggested training the staff so the staff can pass the training on to the group. Sharon Moylan thought the focus should be on 'training the trainer' and asked whether such a focus would be beneficial? Chair Coia noted great feedback and remarked that the goal is to make the process user friendly. The chair thought the group had enough to go forward and do this on a regular basis. She also added that 'training the trainer' is not a bad idea. She thought personally that the piece with Judge Healy should be a part of the program and it would be good to get other judges involved as well. The employers that participated were thrilled as well.

*Action Item:* Chair Coia would like Anne Walsh and Carlos Ribeiro to follow up to see if there are any incident reports, and to follow up in the future.

### **First Quarter Report / Summer Report:**

Chair Coia asked for an update on the First quarter reporting. The Chair wanted know if there were any suggestions on how the group would see this going forward. This first quarter reports are from July 1<sup>st</sup> – September 30<sup>th</sup>. The summer youth information is taken from the youth center reports: Workforce Partnership Greater RI had a total of 3112 youth apply, 913 served during the summer, 859 completed the program, 54 received employment, 265 various employers participated, 21 companies received Express Grants, and 2380 youth are currently in the system that have been served since July 1<sup>st</sup>. The group would like to make sure our reports are consistent with the Governor's Workforce Board and reflect the services in a given year when these reports are sent. The Department of Human Services funding did not come through this year and likely won't this coming year 2015. The group discussed ways of getting more youth involved in the summer program, such as reaching out to corporate sponsors and finding other ways to fund the youth program. The group discussed possibly using the GWB Work Immersion Program. This summer, through JDF Funds, Providence/Cranston Workforce Partnership enrolled 431 kids and a total of 19 kids got jobs. The Woonsocket Youth center enrolled 102 kids and 25 receive summer employment. The information is on the GWB Website. Chair Coia noted that we need to have more meetings on this matter. The Chair thanked everyone for keeping the group in the loop and keeping the lines of communications open.

### **Upcoming Youth Development Committee meeting dates for 2015 was distributed**

#### **Adjournment**

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

**VOTE:** T. Byrne moved to approve, seconded by S. Moylan.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Brown