

**GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE BOARD RI
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 3, 2013**

MINUTES

Committee Members Present: Connie Howes, Robin Coia, Brandon Melton, Martin Trueb, Mike Grey
Committee Members Absent: Robert Nangle
GWB Staff Present: Rick Brooks, Elizabeth Jardine, Amelia Roberts, Hillary Feeney
DLT Staff Present: Sean Fontes
Others in Attendance: Malcolm Baxter, BIS
Location: RI DLT, Conference room 73-2

Call to Order

Chair Howes called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Howes asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2013 Executive Committee meeting.

VOTE: R. Coia moved to approve, seconded by Mike Grey. All were in favor, the motion passed unanimously

Open Board Seats

Chair Howes stated that the vacant seat formerly held by Ray Di Pasquale as well as Brandon Melton's board seat will need to be filled. She noted that Brandon Melton would be leaving Lifespan in September and thanked him for his commitment to the Governor's Workforce Board. Chair Howes highlighted the importance of representing various industries and asked the committee to share their recommendations of who should fill the vacancies. M. Trueb recommended David White from Butler & Messier Insurance who is also a current member of the GWB Employer Advisory Group. Chair Howes suggested a representative from the hospitality industry. M. Grey stated he may have a few recommendations and will be placing calls before discussing them with the committee.

New Board Member – Committee Assignments

Chair Howes asked Rick Brooks to discuss the committee assignments. R. Brooks referred to the handouts and noted the new board members, Timothy Byrne, Cheryl Merchant, and Manuela Raposo specific committees. R. Coia inquired about C. Merchant's background information. Chair Howes stated she is the President and CEO of Hope Global, a large manufacturing company. Chair Howes recommended M. Raposo, the head of the Welcome Back Center, to be the new Chair of the Career Pathways System Task Force. A discussion ensued regarding the vacant board seat formerly held by Lorna Ricci. R. Brooks provided clarification and stated that vacancy would need to be filled by a representative from the business community with a disability. Chair Howes recommended assigning Cathy Streker and Juana Horton to an additional committee. R. Brooks noted that the Youth Committee currently has only three members. B. Melton mentioned that C. Streker has shown interest in the Youth Committee in the past. M. Grey recommended T. Byrne for both Career Pathways System Task

Force and the Youth Committee. M. Trueb suggested that each committee should have 4-5 members. Chair Howes noted that 5 members per committee would work best for quorum purposes. R. Brooks announced as of January 2015, the Secretary of Commerce will serve as the Vice-Chair of the Governor's Workforce Board.

Board Retreat

R. Brooks noted the focus of the retreat will be developing ways to increase the collaboration and partnership between workforce development and economic development. Chair Howes asked the committee to take a moment to look over the draft agenda and background information on Rick Maher, President and CEO of Maher & Maher, and Michael Allio, President of Allio Associates, LLC. R. Brooks discussed Rick Maher's background and experience in workforce system transformation and noted his focus on talent development as a critical piece to economic development. Chair Howes highlighted Rick Maher's prior involvement in the community college systems across the U.S. B. Melton noted the global focus of Rick's presentation. M. Trueb suggested inviting the Economic Development Board to the retreat. The committee agreed the agenda should include small group discussions on ways the GWB can better align workforce policy and investments with economic development. Although B. Melton will be retiring from Lifespan and will no longer be a GWB board member, Chair Howes invited him to attend and participate in the retreat.

After further discussion, the committee agreed to include the following key items on the retreat agenda:

- 12:00 Welcome and Overview
- 12:15 "The Case for Collaboration: Talent as the new Global Currency."
Rick Maher, President & CEO, Maher & Maher
- 1:30 BREAK
- 1:40 Opportunities for Collaboration in RI
Rethinking Economic Development in RI
Marcel Valois, Executive Director, RI Economic Development Corporation
RhodeMap RI: Charting a new course
Kevin Flynn, Division of Statewide Planning
- 2:40 Aligning GWB policy and investments with economic development objectives
 - Background (20 minutes)
 - o Review of GWB Biennial Plan priorities
 - o Review of GWB investments and outcomes
 - Small group discussion: How can the GWB better align workforce policy and investments to support economic development in Rhode Island? (50 minutes)
- 3:50 Wrap-up and evaluation

GWB Meetings "on-the-road" (alternative sites)

The committee discussed alternative site options for the monthly GWB meetings and recommended the following locations:

- Providence Career & Technical Center
- Youth Centers
- Economic Development Corporation
- GWB Funded Programs
- Schools in larger districts

Adjournment

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

VOTE: B. Melton moved to approve, seconded by M. Trueb. All approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amelia-Anne Roberts