

**Governor's Workforce Board RI  
Strategic Investments Committee Meeting  
November 9, 2009**

**Meeting Minutes**

Committee Members present: Joseph MarcAurele, Chair, William McGowan,  
Brandon Melton, Martin Trueb, George Nee  
GWB Staff present: John J. O'Hare, Nancy Olson, Dan Brown,  
Maureen Mooney  
DLT Staff present: Maureen Palumbo, Donna Treglia  
Others Present: Susan Closter-Godoy, Manuela Raposo, Patrick  
McGuigan, Nzinga Misgana, Paul Harden

**Call to Order**

Chair MarcAurele called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided an overview of the agenda items.

**Minutes of 9/10/09**

Chair MarcAurele asked for a review of the meeting minutes of 9/10/09 for the Governor's Workforce Board (GWB) Strategic Investments Committee. He asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented.

**VOTE:** B. Melton moved to approve. M. Trueb seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

**Funding Request: RI Welcome Back Center (RIWBC)**

Chair MarcAurele reported that the funding request for the RIWBC was endorsed by the Adult Education Committee on October 1<sup>st</sup>. He noted that Manuela Raposo and Susan Closter-Godoy would be presenting this request to the committee.

S. Closter-Godoy indicated that the request of \$125,000 would provide partial support to sustain and grow the service capacity of the Center. She reported that the RIWBC has met all of its service targets in its first program year and that efforts are underway to build its capacity to help foreign-trained health professionals enter the RI workforce. She explained that the RIWBC serves a highly skilled, underemployed, low wage earning adult who is a foreign trained professional seeking to use his or her skills in a higher level occupation. She reported that currently the RIWBC is serving nearly 150 professionals in the health care field.

M. Raposa noted that services available to participants include career pathway planning, basic and intermediate English language instruction, specialized test preparation, re-credentialing and licensing support, employer based clinical exposure opportunities, physician and nurse licensing preparation study groups and employer networking. She indicated that contracts for the participants include participation in a re-engagement program which requires providing volunteer services for the center.

A motion was entered to approve funding in the amount of \$125,000 for the RIWBC.

**VOTE:** G. Nee moved to approve. B. Melton seconded the motion.  
The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

**Funding Request: Strengthening Communities Fund (SCF)**

Chair MarcAurele reported that on July 16, 2009 the Strategic Investments Committee approved funding in the amount of \$62,500 to the Providence Plan to assist in their efforts to apply for an ARRA grant. He indicated that representatives are in attendance to provide an update on that application which involves a modified request to the committee.

Patrick McGuigan from the Providence Plan reported that the original funding from the Committee was made in conjunction with a federal funding application that was submitted for \$250,000 to the US Department of Health and Human Services under the SCF program for State and Local Government. He indicated this application was not approved.

P. McGuigan reported that the \$1 million proposal for a SCF Nonprofit Capacity Building program was approved. He indicated the program objectives include providing training and technical assistance to community organizations that are delivering workforce development services to residents in need. A major goal is to build the capacity of nonprofit organizations to leverage ARRA resources and other federal benefits in conjunction with the federal government's economic stimulus. He noted that the request is to continue to make available the \$62,500 as matching funds for this approved project. Nzinga Misgana, Director of New Roots, provided further information on the SCF model noting the goal is to build the capacity of small and mid-sized nonprofits by utilizing methods that enhance both long-term viability and participation in the state's economic recovery.

A motion was entered to reallocate funding in the amount of \$62,500 for the Strengthening Communities Fund Nonprofit Capacity Building program.

**VOTE:** W. McGowan moved to approve. G. Nee seconded the motion.  
The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

**Funding Request: Additional Allocations to Local Workforce Investment Boards (LWIBs)\$1.5m**

Chair MarcAurele asked Donna Treglia of the State Workforce Investment Office, to present the funding request for allocations to the LWIBs. D. Treglia explained that the purpose of the request is to have additional dollars available for training. She reported there has been an increase in requests for training due to a high number of people accessing services through the netWORKri offices. D. Treglia explained that requesting additional funds at this time would ensure there would be no break in services through the end of the fiscal year. She noted that the LWIBs must demonstrate that their funds are depleted before receiving any additional funds.

A motion was entered to approve funding in the amount of \$1.5m for additional allocations to the LWIBs.

**VOTE:** W. McGowan moved to approve. B. Melton seconded the motion.  
The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

**Funding Request: Youth Training \$128,489**

Chair MarcAurele reported that generally funding requests for youth training would be brought to the Youth Development Committee prior to Strategic Investments. He explained that due to the committee meeting schedule for November that this request is brought to the Strategic Investments Committee first with Chair Melton's permission.

Maureen Palumbo reviewed the budget for the 2010 Statewide Youth Provider Training Plan which includes 3 cornerstone events, BEST training, and staff support. She noted there was a carry-in of \$50,000 in unexpended funds from 2008. M. Palumbo also reviewed the 2010 Training at a Glance schedule.

A motion was entered to approve funding in the amount of \$128,489 for the 2010 Statewide Youth Provider Training Plan.

**VOTE:** W. McGowan moved to approve. B. Melton seconded the motion.  
The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

### **Other Business**

Committee members received a copy of the 2010 meeting schedule. With no further business, Chair MarcAurele asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**VOTE:** W. McGowan moved to approve. G. Nee seconded the motion.  
The vote was unanimous, the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Mooney