

**GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE BOARD-RI
WORKFORCE EXPANSION COMMITTEE MEETING
NOVEMBER 29, 2006**

MINUTES

Members Present: Joe Bianco, Maureen Palumbo, Jane Palmer, Sharon Petrarca
Member Absent: Mavis McGetrick
Staff Present: Michael Koback, Marsha McDowell, Nancy Olsen
Others Present: Paul Harden

With a quorum present, M. Koback called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM. Paul Harden was asked to present the Economic Development Corporation's (EDC) one funding request from Polytop Corporation.

Mr. Harden explained that Polytop manufactures tops for all kinds of jars and bottles. Everything is automated and they are looking to train additional people to work their conveyor belt lines. Polytop is looking at individuals who have manufacturing experience from other industries. Basic and intermediate skills of injection molding are required for safety and productivity reasons. The company will hire and train 5 Process Technicians at \$18.00 per hour, and 5 Automation Technicians at \$15.00 per hour. The company is requesting \$50,000. The EDC staff recommendation is for \$40,000.

A motion was entered to approve the EDC staff recommendation of \$40,000. to be awarded to Polytop Corporation.

VOTE: Sharon Petrarca moved to approve, seconded by Joe Bianco. All approved.

Recruitment was discussed briefly. P Harden stated that the company would like to hire from the Northern Rhode Island area, since it is based in North Smithfield, but has been unsuccessful in the past. The company has also utilized various minority newspapers without any success. Suggested was that perhaps, the company could tie in with Job Corps' clients. Mr. Harden stated that discussions have also been taken place between the Community College of Rhode Island and Polytop in terms of doing consortium training for the plastic industries.

With no other business pending, the meeting adjourned at 9:48 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha McDowell