

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

MARCH 28, 2006

8:30 A.M.

TOMPKINS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

- PRESENT:** B. Blanchard, R. Bohman, B. Fortier, C. Haynes, L. Leonard, D. Marsh, P. McKee, J. McPheeters, E. O'Donnell, M. Opperman, L. Patz, A. Pedersen, S. Pronti, J. Rossi, M. Stamm, M. Turnbull, N. Zahler
- EXCUSED:** L. Dillon, J. Little, T. Mallinson, R. Pass, J. Wesche
- ABSENT:** P. Carey, T. Colbert, W. Cooke, D. Cooper, J. Fogler, P. Gardner, D. Herath, K. Luz-Herrera, K. Mann
- GUESTS:** K. Leonard, New York State Department of Labor; L. Holmes, COFA
- STAFF:** J. Mattick, Jennifer Luu

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Opperman called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. and introductions followed.

TRADE DIVERSITY COUNCIL PRESENTATION

Mr. Marsh stated the Trade Diversity Council was formed through Cornell and its emphasis was to attract women and minorities to the trades. One event the group is working on is the Careers in Construction Day that is held annually at The Rink in Lansing. He provided highlights and a short video from last year's event. The event is made possible through a \$10,000 grant from the New York State Department of Labor and other local sponsors. The Department of Labor would like to attract high school juniors and seniors to the trades, but the Council offers the event to students in grades 8-12.

This year's event will take place on May 2, 2006 and over 570 students and chaperones will be attending from ten area school districts. Youth will be provided with hands-on opportunities to learn such things as masonry, heavy equipment operation, and welding, just to name a few.

Ms. Opperman stated Mr. Marsh's leadership has been instrumental in the Council's success. Cornell began discussing diversity in the trades when the north campus was under construction. Ms. Opperman commended Mr. Marsh and members of the Council for the tremendous job they are doing.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was Moved by Mr. Bohman, seconded by Ms. Patz and unanimously adopted by voice of members present to approve the minutes of January 24, 2006, as submitted.

WIB/TCAD JOINT COMMITTEE UPDATE

At the January Board meeting there was discussion about the future of the WIB and possibilities that could be considered including remaining status quo and obtaining funding from the County to sustain the WIB and One-Stop Center, aligning with a neighboring workforce investment board, and looking at greater alignment and efficiencies between the WIB and TCAD.

Currently the WIB retains the ten percent administration allocation from the state, but it is not enough to sustain operations. During the first few years of operation there was enough money available because competitive and non-competitive grants were available to bridge the funding gap. Those opportunities are no longer as readily available.

Consideration was given to aligning with a neighboring workforce investment area, but there has not been any obvious connection because of the differences in economies and workforce needs. This option would also mean less local control in determining how resources are allocated once they are pooled with other counties.

A joint committee has been formed consisting of members of the WIB and TCAD Boards. The first meeting focused on bringing the group up to date on the history of the WIB and why TCAD was originally interested in its creation and the original vision to solve employer needs. Discussions are being held to see what efficiencies are possible between the two organizations. Some areas for alignment are in strategic planning to meet employment and employer needs. This would free up staff time to bring key planning issues back to the Board and reduce the amount of time the Board spends on operational minutiae.

Once the options are mapped out, additional discussions and education will need to occur at the County level about the legal obligations of the WIB and the role the County will be asked to play in funding the workforce system. It is hoped that the work of the joint committee will conclude by the beginning of May and recommendations can be brought to the May WIB and TCAD Board meetings. This will allow for discussions with the County prior to the County's budget cycle beginning for 2007.

TANF SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Ms. Mattick reported the funding for the TANF Summer Youth Program is wrapped up in the State budget, but she has heard the allocation has increased from \$25 to \$30 million statewide. The WIB retains the 15 percent administrative portion. It is hoped a significant number of youth can be served this summer.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Mattick's written report was distributed and is include at the end of the minutes.

Ms. Mattick stated the State has requested an amendment to the WIB's three-year plan that will address the alignment of NYSDOL Wagner Peyser and WIA services. Meetings are being held with staff and the amendment will be filed by April 30, 2006.

She stated she has heard from a number of businesses interested in learning more about 37-L BUSINYS Grant, but to date, there have been no submissions.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:42 a.m. The next Board meeting is scheduled for May 23, 2006 at 8:30 a.m. in the Borg-Warner Room at the Tompkins County Public Library.

Minutes prepared by Jennifer Luu.

TOMPKINS COUNTY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD
STAFF REPORT
March 2006

NATIONAL TRENDS/NEWS

President Bush's FY 2007 Budget slashes overall workforce funding by 15% and mandates that local workforce investment board's use 75% of the funding for Career Advancement Accounts. In addition, the President's proposal makes Workforce Investment Boards and One Stop Center's optional. It would be left up to the state to decide how to use the remaining 25% of the funding.

STATE TRENDS/NEWS

The New York State Department of Labor has announced that they will begin state level One Stop Recertification beginning March 1, 2006. Working with national consultant Lori Strumpf, the state has developed one-stop center quality standards to assess full-service and affiliate one-stop centers as part of the Recertification process and the Department's overall monitoring responsibilities. The quality standards, indicators for each standard and a description of the quality index will be used by monitors to rate each center. The Quality Index is based on three core standards and 24 indicators and has been developed using the Baldrige Quality Criteria and feedback on customer expectations for a quality, high-performing one-stop center.

LOCAL WORKFORCE NEWS

The New York State Department of Labor continues to accept applications for the BUSINYS in New York State grant (37-L). The purpose of the funding is to support employer strategies and local efforts for lifelong learning for the development of the incumbent (employed) worker. To date we have received over 15 employer inquiries. For further information contact Julia Mattick, Tompkins County Workforce Investment Board or visit www.workforcenewyork.org and click on RFA #37-L.

LOCAL WORKFORCE EVENTS

More details at: www.TompkinsWorkforceNY.org

April 4, 2006 – a workshop hosted by JSEC entitled, *Performance Appraisals*. Casey Egan Doyle, Esq. with Hinman, Howard & Kattell, LLP will conduct a short presentation on the importance and value of writing accurate job descriptions and of the legal aspects of performance appraisals. A panel presentation will follow. The event will be held at the Country Club of Ithaca from 8:00AM – 10:30AM. A small fee and advance reservations are required. Reservations must be made no later than 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 29th, by calling (607) 741-4518, by fax at (607) 741-4516, or by e-mail to Catherine.Leonard@labor.state.ny.us.

April 27, 2006 - *World of Skills* is now an annual Ithaca tradition that brings together people who have been out of the job market, under-employed workers, and people with disabilities with area employers, including businesses and non-profit organizations.

May 2, 2006 – *2nd Annual Central New York Careers in Construction* is a hands on event to be held at The Community Recreation Center (The Rink) in Lansing. This event gives high school students the chance to experience firsthand what careers in construction are all about. Youth have the opportunity to operate construction equipment and practice masonry skills just to name a few.

SYSTEM AND CENTER SERVICE UPDATE

CENTER OUTCOMES FOR FEBRUARY 2006

- 538 Jobseekers served during February
- 359 customer center visits
- 943 total services delivered on-site
- 190 customers entered employment
- 43 businesses received services
- 119 new job openings through Center
- 79% increase in customers attending workshops