

Town of Hempstead Local Workforce Development Board Meeting Minutes

HempsteadWorks Career Center

June 13, 2018

I. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 A.M. by Alan Nachman, Vice Chairman of the Local Workforce Development Board, who asked the attendees to introduce themselves.

II. Review of Minutes

Vice Chairman Nachman indicated that all members had received a copy of the minutes from the Local Workforce Development Board Meeting dated January 24, 2018. He allowed a moment for review of the minutes and asked if there were any changes or corrections necessary. A motion to approve the minutes was offered by Dr. Richard E. Dibble, seconded by Elvira Lovaglio-Duncan and approved by the members.

III. Youth Requests for Proposals

Dr. Dibble, Chairman of the Youth Standing Committee, presented the recommendations regarding proposals that were reviewed by the Youth Standing Committee at its meeting on May 16, 2018. The proposals involved the WIOA involved the WIOA Year-Round Youth Program and the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP). Sal Scibetta said that since the Youth Standing Committee Meeting was held, the budget for the WIOA program has changed slightly. Mr. Nachman entertained a motion to approve the Committee's recommendations for the WIOA Year-Round Program, which was offered by Ms. Lovaglio-Duncan, seconded by Veronica Rose-Craig and approved by the Board. Then, Mr. Nachman entertained a motion to approve the recommendations for the TANF SYEP. Ms. Lovaglio-Duncan offered a motion, Martin Murphy seconded it, and it was approved by the Board.

IV. Processing Non-Criminal Complaints/Grievances

Mr. Nachman indicated that the New York State Department of Labor (NYSDOL) released Technical Advisory #18-4 that requires that the Board approve staff for two roles – a Local Area Grievance Officer and a Local Level Hearing Officer. The Department of Occupational Resources has suggested two staff members to fulfill these roles. Mr. Nachman asked for a motion to approve the manes. Dr. Murphy offered a motion, Ms. Lovaglio-Duncan seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by the Board.

V. Enhanced Services for Dislocated Workers Projects

Mr. Nachman explained that the Board was recently awarded funds to conduct the two Enhanced Services for Dislocated Workers Projects under the New York State Department of Labor’s Sector Partnership National Emergency Grant. Elizabeth Ajasin explained that the period of performance for the grant is between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018. Under the grant, customers will receive individual counseling and comprehensive assessment; individual employment planning; job search planning and job coaching; short-term pre-vocational skills to prepare for employment and training; placement in vocational skills training; and job search assistance.

Ms. Lovaglio-Duncan asked if the project goals are too ambitious considering that the grant will end by the end of the month. Edward Kenny responded that it is indeed an ambitious endeavor, but given that the grant funds were recently made available, we will do as much as we can to serve our customers.

VI. Career Pathways 7.0 , Sector Partnership – Significant Industries, Career Pathways Projects

Mr. Nachman invited Yvonne Morrissey to speak about the Career Pathways 7.0 project. Ms. Morrissey explained that the Town of Hempstead Department of Occupational Resources had been awarded funding through the Long Island Regional Economic Development Council through the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) to conduct training projects. She shared a flyer for the project. Under the grant, individuals who are unemployed or underemployed, as defined under WIOA, will be eligible to enroll in training courses for careers in high-demand occupations. Training courses under the grant include Project Management, Nurse Assistant, Medical Billing Specialist, EKG Technician and Child Development Associate. Ms. Morrissey added that under this grant, individuals will take a certification exam upon completion of their training. May Whei-Lin asked which school offers the Project Management course, and Ms. Morrissey answered that Stony Brook University offers the class. Mr. Kenny added that we have recently completed two career pathways projects under CFA Round 6.0 for unemployed worker training and for special populations.

VII. Disability Employment Initiatives – Round 8 Update

Mr. Nachman invited Maria Lombardi, Disability Resource Coordinator, to update the Board on the Disability Employment Initiative (DEI) Round 8 subgrant. Ms. Lombardi explained that through systems change, the goal of the DEI grant is to provide training and increase employment opportunities for youth with disabilities. She spoke about how she and the Youth Services Coordinator, Myesha Arvon, have been conducting outreach and recruitment at schools and community-based organizations throughout the Town of

Hempstead. She also mentioned working with various organizations to aid in procuring and upgrading assistive technology at the Career Center.

Ms. Lombardi indicated that we have formed a Pathways to Employment Workgroup, a group formed to identify and implement strategies to increase employment outcomes for youth participants. The group met for the first time on June 13, 2018, and the discussion centered on challenges of serving these youth with disabilities and training them in the skills they need to advance along their career pathway.

VIII. Co-Located Partners Presentations

Mr. Nachman indicated that each of the co-located partners at the HempsteadWorks Career Center offers a variety of services to customers. He invited the New York State Department of Labor (NYSDOL), Adult Education and Continuing Education Services – Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR) and Urban League of Westchester to give a brief presentation highlighting some of these services:

New York State Department of Labor (NYSDOL)

May-Whei Lin stated that NYSDOL serves both job seekers and businesses. Individuals receiving unemployment insurance have access to a wide array of career services and are referred to the HempsteadWorks Career Center for additional services. NYSDOL also provides job matching services that enable businesses to choose from a skilled workforce. Ms. Lin explained that NYSDOL supports the Federal Bonding Program which provides bonding for six months to businesses that hire job seekers with employment challenges. Ana-Maria Hurtado asked if NYSDOL's bonding training can be offered to HempsteadWorks staff, and Ms. Lin said it is possible. Ms. Rose-Craig asked if the bonding process takes a long time. Ms. Lin answered that the bonding process takes only a few days, but if asking for a bond that exceeds \$5,000, a reason will have to be provided. Ms. Lin distributed literature pertaining to labor exchange, business services and labor market information.

ACCES-VR

Veronica Rose-Craig explained that the mission of ACCES-VR is to provide vocational rehabilitation services to individuals with disabilities leading to employment. Participants receive individualized attention which depends on each of their unique needs. They take one assessment to determine their skills, receive benefits counseling, rehabilitation and access to assistive technology, arrange for accommodations needed in their place of employment, on-the-job training, and work try-outs. Ms. Rose-Craig said that ACCES-VR holds an orientation twice a month at the HempsteadWorks career center.

Urban League of Westchester

Ms. Lovaglio-Duncan indicated that at the HempsteadWorks Career Center, Urban League serves individuals ages 55 and up and helps them achieve self-reliance through career counseling, employment and career advancement. She said that although many participants lack computer skills, their main problem has been their lack of confidence in themselves. Urban League helps them to build their self-confidence and computer skills.

IX. Regional Sector Partnership Development Grant Project

Mr. Nachman explained that in 2016, NYSDOL awarded the Board with the Regional Sector Partnership Development Grant under its Sector Partnership National Emergency Grant. We contracted with Humanity 2.0 to initiate a plan designed to identify key strategies needed for the development and implementation of a regional industry sector initiative, specifically in healthcare and social assistance. He introduced Steve Bennett from Humanity 2.0 to give a preview of the project's final report.

Mr. Bennett identified three key findings:

1. Occupational Priorities: through research, he was able to provide an overview of current and future workforce needs in the Healthcare and Social Assistance sector. He explained that in order to understand the nature of these workforce needs, or the positions employers have difficulty filling, there are some foundational competencies a participant would need to excel.
2. Career Pathways: Mr. Bennett explained that an effective career pathways system requires a career navigation system that includes career coaching; education, training and credentials; and career portfolio development.
3. Implementation and Sustainability: He suggests that the work described in the report will need to be integrated into the existing workforce infrastructure and programs.

Ms. Rose Craig asked what is meant by “social assistance,” and Mr. Kenny responded that it is a broadening category of healthcare. In a NYSDOL “Significant Industries” report, it is listed as industry that will continue to perform well in the future. Mr. Kenny also added that the grant tools developed under the grant will be applied to the DEI project. Mr. Bennett will explain the final report more extensively at the Long Island Sector Partnership meeting to be held on Friday, June 29 at the Marriot Hotel in Farmingdale, NY.

X. Funding Update

Ana-Maria Hurtado said that our budgetary situation is looking much more optimistic. In light of recent grants received by the Department, some money has been freed to support other expenditures that will contribute to serving the community. Commissioner Gregory

R. Becker added that the Department continues to develop a positive relationship with the Town of Hempstead's new administration.

XI. Old Business

No old business was discussed.

XII. New Business

Ms. Morrissey announced a Job Fair scheduled for July 31, 2018 from 10 A.M. to 1 P.M. It will take place at the Levittown Hall at 201 Levittown at Hicksville, NY 11801. The event is sponsored by Councilwoman Erin King Sweeney, Councilman Dennis Dunne, Sr., and the Town of Hempstead Department of Occupational Resources at HempsteadWorks.

Ms. Lovaglio-Duncan also announced the graduation ceremony for the Nassau Community College's URGENT program, which will take place on June 21, 2018. Two Urban League participants are in this graduating cohort.

XIII. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was offered by Ms. Lovaglio-Duncan, seconded by Mr. Goldstein and approved by the Board. The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 A.M.