

**ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 12, 2007 MEETING**

CALL TO ORDER: Acting Chairman Don Hooper called to order the regular meeting of the St. Lawrence County Workforce Investment Board at 6:45 pm at the Lobster House in Norwood.

Members Present: Doug Beachard, Sue Caswell, Rich Daddario, Bruce Green, Don Hooper, Joe Kennedy, Linda Manchester, Mike Noble, Steve Novacich, Richard Orton, Daphne Pickert, Dale Rice, Karen St. Hilaire, Mark Webster,

Members Absent: Jack Backus, Tracy Charleson, Kathy Daniels, Lisa McCarty, Ron McDougall, Walt Paul, Ryan Schermerhorn

Others Present: From the Office of Economic Development: Jim Connor, Ray Fountain, Kimberly Gilbert, Natalie Haggart, Jean Hantz, Steve House, Patrick Kelly; Karen DeJarnette from Empire State Development.

Report of Nominating Committee and Election of Chairman: Mr. Daddario reports on behalf of the Committee (Daddario/Backus/Caswell) and moves to nominate Mike Noble for Chairman and Don Hooper for Vice Chairman. Second by Mr. Orton. Approved unanimously. Mr. Daddario thanks Mr. Hooper for his dedication to the WIB. Mr. Hooper encourages WIB membership, especially those who are long-term members, to consider Vice-Chairmanship and eventual Chairmanship.

The Chairmanship is turned over to Mr. Noble, who also thanks Mr. Hooper for his hard work and dedication.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Kelly introduces Karen DeJarnette of Empire State Development. Ms. DeJarnette provides a powerpoint presentation which contains information regarding her representative area and current concerns (decreasing manufacturing base, outmigration of youth, infrastructure, poverty issues). She describes Gov. Spitzer's 4-pillar response (decrease the cost of doing business, develop an innovative economy, encourage regional and community-based development, improve infrastructure). Regional blueprint sessions were conducted across the regions to learn about area issues and possible solutions. Upstate Chairman Gundersen has created the five I's for a vibrant economy: Infrastructure, International trade/relations, Investment in Upstate NY, Innovation in economic development, and Intellectual Capital. Ms. DeJarnette then fielded questions from the membership (skilled trades, outmigration, career ladders, current education standards).

MINUTES: Mr. Daddario motion, seconded by Dr. Kennedy to accept the minutes of the Sept. 12, 2007 meeting. Minutes unanimously accepted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive: Mr. Hooper reports on the Executive Committee meeting held November 8, noting items of discussion included the budget for the GM Plan of Service and the Incentive Grant funds, along with forwarding Patrick Regan's name to the Services Committee for appointment to the Youth Council.

Youth: Youth Council Chairman Bruce Green reported that the Youth Council voted to continue the Summer Youth program at the same funding level and requested \$75,000 from the Incentive Grant funds for youth programs. He reported briefly on the Certified Nurse Aide and the Retail Sales programs. He reported that the Council has a Procedures and Policies sub-committee which is working on a checklist of items to integrate Economic Development and Summer Programs for auditing purposes.

Marketing/Board Development: Mr. Beachard reported that the Committee was working on airing radio advertisements from January through April. The ads will focus on the DPN program and will incorporate

name recognition. Mr. Kelly reported that he attended a community-focused meeting at Alcoa; and reminded Alcoa that Paul Catanzarite's transfer to Virginia also left a vacancy on the WIB. He suggested that a representative from Alcoa serve on the WIB. His suggestion is being taken under advisement by Alcoa. It was also suggested to the Committee that someone from the area of agriculture could serve on the WIB, especially with the upcoming Bion project.

AdHoc: One-Stop: Committee Chairman Noble noted that no meetings have been held, but he will appoint a new Committee Chairman in the very near future..

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Mr. Orton, second by Mr. Daddario. Mr. Fountain explains that the two resolutions were forwarded through the Executive Committee due to time constraints. Regarding the GM Budget Mr. Fountain notes that a number of questions still remain unanswered, making budgeting and service provision difficult. To date, 100 people have been entered into the system. Three or four various budget scenarios regarding the Incentive Grant funds were discussed at the Executive Committee meeting. Consent agenda items (see below) approved unanimously.

- Modifying PY07 Budget (GM Plan of Service)
- Authorizing Submission of Incentive Grants Funds

OLD BUSINESS: None

Resolution: Modifying PY07 Budget: Motion by Mr. Daddario, second by Ms. Pickert. Ms. Gilbert explains that the majority of the modifications address staffing reallocations. The resolution basically just moves money around. No questions or comments. Resolution passes unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: None

STAFF REPORT:

The following was reported:

- 2008 Tentative Meeting Schedule: Ms. Haggart reports that the tentative meeting schedule for 2008 will be emailed to members.
- 2008 Budget Projections: Mr. Fountain reports on a recent WIB Director meeting, whereby attendees were advised to prepare for a 20% reduction in formula allocations effective July 1. The funding levels are based on the changes in the unemployment rate in New York as compared to the rest of the country. Mr. Fountain also spoke briefly about WIA funding rescissions and the USDOL's belief that there are unspent funds within the WIA system. The State will be asking each local area to come up with a plan to provide WIA services with the decreased funds.
- Mr. Fountain reported that the Curran Renewable Energy project continues. Local loans have pre-closed and Mr. Curran and Mr. Ashley are going to be in Rochester tomorrow (Thursday) to sign the bond documents.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, and upon a motion by Mr. Orton and second by Mr. Daddario, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.