

FINGER LAKES WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 8:30-10:00am

Holiday Inn – Waterloo/Seneca Falls

ATTENDANCE:

Members: N. A. Hernandez, S. Brusso, M. Burnell, D. Culeton, M. Davis, R. Doebelin, J. Hamm, D. Hellert, M. Kauffman, C. Kramer, M. Manikowski, J. Marquette, J. McGregor, K. Morgan, J. Mueller, R. Murphy, K. Noyes, L. Parish, J. Pellerite, B. Percy, D. Phillips, B. Risser, M. Rusinko

Guests: P. Birmingham, J. Boronkay, A. Cook, V. England, A. Hunt, J. Marshall, S. Morse, B. Russell-Orr, K. Templar, J. Vrabel, B. Young

Staff: K. Springmeier, A. Belle-Smith, D. Brennan, P. Gopen, E. Rucinski, D. Sowards

Absent: S. Bischooping, L. Brennan, P. Churchill, J. DeVault, T. Facer, M. Fortune, J. Garvey, C. Harvey, C. Hess, G. Lazzaro, J. Marinelli, M. Mandina, K. O'Hagan, K. Riemer, A. Scheetz, C. Schillaci, J. Socha, B. Trousie

Mr. Manikowski called the meeting to order at 8:32 am. Introductions were made.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCANNING

Economic Issues/Trends/Concerns:

- Mr. Mueller gave the agricultural report. He noted that the winter was brutal but didn't do too much damage. He discussed the great young people in the agricultural industry and all of the two and four year colleges with agricultural programs.
- Mr. McGregor noted that Wine Enthusiast Magazine named the Finger Lakes one of the top wine areas in 2015. Governor Cuomo made an announcement at the Wine, Beer & Spirits Summit on the availability of grants in the industry that are available. He noted the winter was bad but the crop will be okay. He also deferred to Dr. Risser regarding the opening of the new viticulture center by FLCC. Dr. Risser noted that this is one of the only programs in the Northeast. The ribbon cutting for the building was held last week and classes are already in progress since January in the building. Mr. Manikowski noted that he participated in a wine tasting in Brooklyn and it featuring wines from the Finger Lakes.

Program Changes:

- None.

Privilege of the Floor:

- Ms. Springmeier reviewed the contents of the board member folders. She announced the success of the 2015 Healthcare Career Day. There were 335 students in attendance from 20 area school districts who heard about the healthcare and human service industry from 17 presenters. She also noted that Ms. Gopen has filed an application for an Agriculture/Viticulture grant for a career day for high school students.

SUCCESS STORY

- Ms. Gopen presented on the success of the Educator and Employer Youth Panel Series. For more information please contact Ms. Gopen at pgopen@fingerlakesworks.com.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

- Finance & Audit: Mr. Doebelin
Mr. Doebelin noted that the committee has not received the allocation for Program Year 2015 (PY'15). The next few months will include review and approval of the budget, as well as transition to WIOA.
- Governance & Membership: Mr. Manikowski
Ms. Springmeier will discuss during her WIOA presentation later in the meeting.
- Marketing & Communications: Ms. Culeton
Ms. Culeton noted the committee met for a February meeting. She requests that when the board members receive the Dashboard Report via e-mail, they note any changes or requests they have for the report. Ms. Culeton noted the committee continues to evaluate programs as related to the brand.
- Performance & Evaluation: Mr. Mueller
Mr. Mueller discussed the unemployment and traffic numbers. He noted that traffic and unemployment went up a little between November and December. Unemployment is still down by almost a whole point from the previous year PY'13. The committee continues to review the federal and state goals.
- Youth Council: Ms. Gopen
Ms. Gopen discussed the transition from a Youth Council to a Youth Committee under the new WIOA legislation on July 1st. The youth funding will be used for 100% of out-of-school youth up to the age of 24 years old. Youth Council held a March meeting to discuss follow-up on the heroin and opioid abuse in our area.

- Consortium/ Business Services: Ms. Springmeier for Mr. Woloson
Ms. Springmeier noted the Consortium has been tasked with creating a soft skills program for job seekers and employees. The Economic Development Committee requested this initiative and development is currently underway. The committee has proposed their curriculum to the employer panel and hope to move forward in the upcoming weeks to have WFL-BOCES train staff to provide the program to job seekers. The “Why I Love the Finger Lakes” Career Expo will be held on April 23rd at FLCC in Canandaigua. Cost for employers to register is \$99. The Business of the Month has become an every other month award, with the months in between being awarded to Community Partners of the Month. There are no OJT funds left for PY’14 so the focus of the BSR team is to find out what employers need/want from job seekers and training.
- Director’s Report: Ms. Springmeier
Ms. Springmeier noted that a majority of her report will be in her board presentation on WIOA. The strategic planning process has been postponed until the appointment of the new board members after July 1st. The Advanced Manufacturing Career Pathways Grant (H1B Grant) has been approved for a no-cost extension through spring of 2016. The goal is to fund about 100 more students through this grant by June 30, 2016. Ms. Rucinski noted there is a class in advanced manufacturing beginning in June. Any questions please contact her at amcn@fingerlakesworks.com.
- FAME: Ms. Springmeier
Ms. Springmeier noted the FAME accomplishments for 2014 are in the board member folders. The FAME Executive committee met Monday regarding the strategic planning for the upcoming year. The FAME Event on January 28th was successful with about 150 in attendance. Mr. Phillips noted the panel at the FAME Event was great. Optimax Systems sponsored \$10,000 for a FAME scholarship that will provide funding for local students to attend community colleges for degrees in advanced manufacturing. FAME will provide \$2,000 a year to area students. Donations to this program can be made by contacting Michele Stolberg.

NEW BUSINESS/CONSENT AGENDA:

- **Minutes** from January 21, 2015 - Motion to approve by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Rusinko.

BOARD PRESENTATION

Ms. Springmeier presented on the WIOA legislation and the effect it will have on the board representation. The presentation will be e-mailed to all board members. For more information please contact Ms. Springmeier at kspringmeier@fingerlakesworks.com.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

Next Board Meeting – Wednesday, May 20, 2015 – **WFL-BOCES, Flint Campus**

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Ms. Burnell. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Dinah Brennan
Executive Assistant