

Meeting Minutes

Type of Meeting: Bergen WIB Full Board
Date: July 9, 2013
Attendees: See attendance sheet
Distributed: Agenda; Minutes; Projected Budget for 2013-14 As of 7/1/2013; Performance Measures Report

Location: County Building, Room 2E
Address: 1 Bergen County Plaza, Hackensack, NJ 07601

The annual meeting of the Bergen WIB was called to order at 9:00am on July 9, 2013 in Room 2E of the County Building by Randy Guthrie.

- Call to order; Pledge of Allegiance; Public Notice Announcement

- R. Guthrie announced J. Black's resignation from the Board and read his resignation letter to the Board on his behalf. R. Guthrie followed with words of appreciation for Black's service to the Board and announced that as Vice Chair he would be presiding as Chair over the meeting.

- R. Guthrie posed a question to the Board asking how they would like to proceed with election scheduled for today now that J. Black has resigned from the WIB. R. Guthrie explained that he was asked to raise the issue because there were some WIB members that were willing to run for office but would not oppose J. Black in an election. Options were either hold off the election and seek new nominations, or to move forward as scheduled. Floor was opened for discussion. B. Loderstedt suggested that in light of the resignation at least two weeks should be given to reschedule election because there may be other candidates. A. DeGiulio reminded everyone that the By-Laws currently allow for nominations from the floor. W. Hecht suggested that the WIB look at our By-Laws to consider amending them so that there are a Chair and an alternate thereof, in training, so that there may always be someone waiting in the wings to step in because of the complexity of the position. A. DeGiulio announced that the By-Laws Committee purposely did not suggest amendments prior to the election because they did not want the appearance of impropriety but that the Committee is very aware that the By-Laws need a complete overhaul, and is their intention after the election to continue the revision process. L. Weiss expressed concern over postponing the election and the number of members in attendance that came out to vote; that it would be improper, unfair to the other candidates and that he has never seen this; suggested it be put to a roll call vote. J. Susino said people not in attendance would have to be notified. T. Kochman questioned the commitment of the people that wanted to run for Chair but not against J. Black. J. Thebery said that the WIB cannot strip the election; upon resignation or death, the ballot stands; people still have the option to vote for J. Black or abstain. T. Eastwick said those who wish to abstain should abstain.

- R. Guthrie brought up the issue that was discussed in prior meeting(s) that M. Devaney may have a potential conflict of interest and asked to get approval from the Board. M. Devaney explained that Crestron is the recipient of On-Job-Training (OJT) dollars to employ people with skill gaps; that he is an employee of Crestron and not the owner and that many other Board members have also received funds or are direct employees of the fiscal agent. M. Devaney offered that Crestron can direct OJT requests to Passaic County and not utilize Bergen if seen as a conflict. S. Blumenthal added that there are a number of colleges represented on the Board that utilize funds as well. A. Freund pointed to section 4:9 of the By-Laws that covers conflict of interest. T.

Kochman added that M. Devaney said Crestron is willing direct OJT requests to Passaic County and not use Bergen if seen as a conflict of interest. C. Oates stated that the By-Laws have a structure in place for the election. A. DeGiulio announced that the Nominating Committee was sensitive to the fact that M. Devaney's employer is a direct recipient of funds and had done some research around the State and SETC; one case to point out is that a WIB Chair in another County is a Community Action Director and was elected; in addition, this was vetted out by the SETC and this Chair continues to vote and recuses himself when his organization is involved.

- R. Guthrie asked the Board if they should have the vote to proceed. R. Milon moved, W. Hecht seconded, to proceed with the election. A roll call vote was taken. Vote was all in favor with no abstentions. Vote passed to hold the election as scheduled.
- Nominations from the floor were opened. T. Eastwick nominated S. Blumenthal for Chair and S. Blumenthal respectfully declined. V. D'Elia nominated C. Oates for Chair and C. Oates accepted the nomination.
- How to conduct the vote was next item discussed. T. Molinelli explained that the Board has never had a formal ballot or roll call vote for election; By-Laws state ballot if contested; SETC had confirmed that a signed ballot was acceptable with Open Public Meetings Act.
- W. Hecht requested to hear candidate statements now that there are two candidates and T. Eastwick agreed. Tammy reminded the Board that the previously recoded candidate's forum was on YouTube.
- A. DeGiulio explained that the Nominating Committee researched different opinions and that the ballots have to be signed. M. Peters stated the ballot is signed for the record but only the aggregate will be reported in public meeting.
- V. D'Elia moved, K. Walsh seconded, to conduct the election by signed ballot. A roll call vote was taken. Vote was all 24 in favor, 7 not in favor, and 2 abstentions. Vote passed to conduct election by signed ballot.
- Hearing no further nominations, a motion by J. Thebery, seconded by J. Linter, to close nominations, was carried.
- C. Oates gave bio/platform presentation to the Board. M. Devaney deferred to the candidates forum on YouTube.
- Ballots were distributed. R. Guthrie called recess until 10:15am and reconvened for the ballot count.
- P. Incardone presented County award to D. Miaoulis for his contributions on the One-Stop Committee. P. Incardone gave update on County Executive and announced upcoming job fair.

➤ Nominating Committee requested clarification on how abstentions are counted. It was confirmed that abstentions and blanks are not counted towards votes cast. Majority to win confirmed as majority of votes cast. Nominating Committee results read.

– **Election of Chair (Term July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2014)**

- Abstentions.....4
- Blank.....0
- Illegal.....1 (voided absentee ballot)
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- Number of votes cast.....30 (minus abstentions, blanks, and, illegal)
- Necessary for election.....16
- Jim Black received.....1
- Martin DeVaney received.....12
- Corethia Oates received.....17 (elected)

– **Election of Secretary-Treasurer (Term July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2015)**

- Abstentions.....2
- Blank.....2
- Illegal.....1 (voided absentee ballot)
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- Number of votes cast.....30 (minus abstentions, blanks, and, illegal)
- Necessary for election.....16
- Steve Blumenthal received...30 (elected)

➤ **Executive Director Report, Tammy Molinelli.** Youth Investment Council identified 6th Barrier unique to Bergen, part of SETC recertification requirement. Committee Chairs have provided 2nd quarter goals and deliverables. SETC recertification items still working on: members only section with committee minutes. Started draft of local plan that will guide the WIB for next five years. Reviewing RFPs for youth programs. Will be meeting with individual board members at least one time this year and we plan on holding an orientation for new and existing members. Working on fall Health Profession Opportunity Grants (HPOG) grant seminar; looking for 100 businesses in health care to identify skill gaps; looking to partner with Bergen Community College. Met with 18 prospective businesses and they were handed off to One-Stop staff. Twenty-First Century Associates (TFC) will be honored at the GSETA conference for hiring veterans. North Jersey Partners applied for \$90k grant for transportation sector; was told verbally that we were awarded the grant but not in writing. Looking for volunteers for in-school youth site reviews. Submitted article to Meadowlands Regional Chamber of Commerce on the benefits of hiring individual with disabilities. Disability Committee looking to do success stories from a business perspective. Working out some issues with the Expungement Pilot program.

➤ **One-Stop Report, Greg Janz.** Fiscal year ended June 30; will email fact sheet to board members after data has been collected. Received grant awards; about \$100k more than last year; Workforce Learning Link (WLL) not awarded yet but will be flat funding. Hurricane Sandy grant is placing people with OEM in the Palisades Parks system. Just had WorkFirst New Jersey (WFNJ) reports; waiting for responses from a few providers; working on WFNJ RFP for offsite counseling; looking to change

performance objectives with Board approval. 19 participants in OJTs; getting the word out; will get report on numbers and placements. Plan to have total budget ready early August. Staff getting better with Crystal Reports. Counselors now responsible for entering more data and will be part of their review. Dumped a number of clients to clean up system. D. Miaoulis stated they will be looking at reorganizing the WIB Committees next; should look at all seven industries to align with state unified plan to align the committees the right way.

- **Marketing Report, Annette Freund.** Announced that a folder has been made for each member and to take one before leaving; contains new pilot flyers, reports, and press releases. Intern Evan Torrens has been helping with marketing items. J. Jacobson is writing press releases for new members; call was made for missing information and headshots. Plan to send press releases to towns with help from the County Information Officer.
- **Youth Investment Council Report, Shannon Lazare.** Working on youth teller program collaborative; it has been approved for apprenticeship; curriculum and 6th barrier will be approved soon.
- **Literacy Report, Walter Hecht.** Literacy is the underpinning of the workforce in Bergen so it is important to understand the literacy gaps and factors. Recommend looking at Mercer County literacy website for good ideas. W. Hecht announced that he will be stepping down as Literacy Chair due to other commitments but will remain on the WIB. R. Guthrie presented WIB award to W. Hecht in recognition to his contributions as Literacy Committee Chair.
- **Disability Report, J. Thebery.** Announced that the Disability Committee is looking for a way to align with job fairs giving the WIB a greater presence; exploring the option of doing a workshop.

Adjournment: A motion by V. D'Elia seconded by R. Milon was made to adjourn the meeting was made. Meeting was adjourned at 11:00am by Randy Guthrie. The next regular meeting will be at 8:30am on October 8, 2013at One Bergen County Plaza, Room 2E in Hackensack.