

**WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD**

**MAY 22, 2012**

**8:30 A.M.**

**TOMPKINS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**PRESENT:** A. Bishop, R. Bohman, D. Bradac, M. Coldren, L. Dillon, T. Grippen, C. Haynes, A. Hendrix, L. Holmes, L. Leonard, P. Levesque, J. Little, P. McKee, E. O'Donnell, A. Pedersen, P. Stein, M. Turnbull

**EXCUSED:** B. Blanchard, P. Gardner, D. Herath, J. McPheeters, L. Patz, M. Stamm, M. Stazi, M. Talarski

**ABSENT:** B. Pass

**STAFF:** J. Mattick, Jennifer Luu

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Coldren called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JANUARY 24, 2012 AND APRIL 20, 2012**

It was Moved by Mr. Bohman, seconded by Ms. Holmes and unanimously adopted by voice vote of members present to approve the minutes of January 24, 2012 and April 20, 2012 as written.

**REVIEW RESULTS OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS/WIB MEETING SMALL GROUP WORK AND REPORT OUT/NEXT STEPS**

The meeting held at the Ithaca Country Club on April 20, 2012 had a very good turnout and many good ideas were brought forward. The Board reviewed the notes from that meeting. There was discussion that schools have indicated that there is a strong interest in working with business; however, there are often barriers such as resources and time constraints due to state mandated requirements. There was significant interest in internships, but again, there are not enough resources and coordination to make this successful on a broad scale. An additional idea that was well received is a job fair for parents that can be held in the schools. This type of event will help parents better understand what opportunities are available as well as what occupations are in demand so they can begin the conversation with their student at home. This could go a long way at guiding a student's future. Dr. O'Donnell indicated she would reach out to the schools to get an idea of what types of events are currently being held.

**WORK READINESS CREDENTIAL**

Ms. Mattick provided an overview of the work readiness credential assessment. The national Society for Human Resource Management professionals has identified this as a priority for the coming year. The training covers all skills identified by the National Work Readiness Council as needed to effectively prepare adult learners for entry-level workplace positions. The series includes: reading, math, and situational judgment and active listening. Learning is very individualized and the length of training for each individual varies. There are 230 sites nationally, Tompkins is now one of them, and there have been positive results reported. Mr. Mareane asked that statistics about the success of the program be brought to the board at its next meeting. Mr. Coldren suggested that if funding is identified to continue this program on a broader scale, that a process be established to help identify potential candidates for training/testing.

**DIRECTORS REPORT**

Ms. Bradac distributed her report (included at the end of the minutes).

Ms. Mattick reported that the current round of CFA funding is available and includes \$5 million from NYSDOL to be used by employers for on-the-job training of new employees. There is also funding available for incumbent workers and for entities employing the long-term unemployed. The maximum a business may receive is \$100,000.

Ms. Mattick reported she and Martha Armstrong from TCAD have been reviewing discrepancies with the employment rate that was recently reported in the *Ithaca Journal*. The US Bureau of Labor Statistics compiles data monthly for the nation, states, and localities, and the rate that is being reported for Tompkins County is contrary to what is being seen in the community. The data is saying that the area lost 4,100 jobs in the educational and health services sectors, but does not include data for school districts. A white paper has been created and sent on to Senators Gilibrand and Schumer to make them aware of the flaw.

## **BOARD MEMBERSHIP**

The Executive Committee has been discussing board membership and the recruitment of new members. Board members were ask to give this some thought and contact Mr. Coldren or Ms Mattick with ideas.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

It was Moved by Mr. Bohman, seconded by Ms. Holmes and unanimously adopted by voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for September 25, 2012 at 8:30 a.m. at the Tompkins County Public Library