

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

MAY 25, 2010

8:30 A.M. BORG WARNER ROOM – TC PUBLIC LIBRARY

PRESENT: R. Bohman, D. Bradac, D. Chadwick, C. Chock, M. Coldren, P. Gardner, C. Haynes, D. Herath, L. Holmes, L. Leonard, J. Little, J. McPheeters, B. Myers, B. Pass, L. Patz, A. Pedersen, M. Stazi, N. Zahler

EXCUSED: B. Bantle, B. Blanchard, L. Dillon, T. Grippen, D. Huston, P. McKee, E. O'Donnell, M. Opperman, M. Stamm, M. Talarski, M. Turnbull

ABSENT: P. Carey, D. Marsh

GUESTS: J. Mareane, Tompkins County Administration; T. Dilucci, TST BOCES

STAFF: J. Mattick, Jennifer Luu

CALL TO ORDER

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Zahler announced that County Youth Services has prepared a handout that is available on their website that provides information about opportunities for youth summer jobs. They are also developing unpaid volunteer workgroups for younger teens that will help them develop job skills.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was Moved by Ms. McPheeters, seconded by Mr. Bohman and unanimously adopted by voice vote of members present to approve the minutes of March 23, 2010, as presented.

CONFIRMATION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTIONS

It was Moved by Mr. Coldren, seconded by Ms. Patz and unanimously adopted by voice vote of members confirm the actions of the Executive Committee authorizing the Executive Director to negotiate contracts with the Ithaca Youth Bureau and the Tompkins County Office of Employment and Training for the Summer Youth Employment Program if funding is made available either through federal or state funds.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

TRADE ACT PETITION – EMERSON POWER TRANSMISSION

Ms. Mattick stated the petition has finally been approved and she provided an overview of the process and benefits that will be available to each employee. Over 400 employees will be able to benefit because the petition goes back to when the first layoffs began.

Ms. Zahler asked if individuals are being placed into existing training or if other programs will need to be created. Ms. Mattick stated that options are being explored and assessments are being conducted to see what existing skills sets are and what employees need. Any training that occurs must either be on the State's eligible training provider list or approved by the State Education Department.

REGIONAL TRANSFORMATION STRATEGIES - SOUTHERN TIER WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARDS

Ms. Mattick stated that over the last year and a half work she has been working with workforce investment boards from across the southern tier on regional transformation strategies with funds that were

made available by the State. The goal is to create more regionalization activities across the state. One activity the group is working on is the creation of commercials that will run on WETM's Hometown Career Channel that highlight area businesses. IncodeMa is being featured for Tompkins County. The link to access the commercial is <http://www.wetmtv.com/content/hometowncareer/default.aspx> .

SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT UPDATE

Ms. Mattick stated the summer youth funding picture changes daily. At the federal level there is a proposal to put 1 billion into national summer youth employment programs. If this is passed, Tompkins County would receive approximately \$300,000 program dollars. It is hoped that this will be voted on this week otherwise it will be another two weeks before it is reconsidered.

At the State level the funds are wrapped up in the state budget and there are a lot of competing priorities within the budget, which has yet to be passed.

ONE-STOP CENTER MANAGER'S REPORT

Ms. Bradac distributed her report and it is included at the end of the minutes.

WORKFORCE STRATEGY GOALS, PRIORITIZATION

The discussion on the workforce strategy was postponed and will be the sole item of discussion at a special board meeting in June.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m. The Board will be canvassed for a meeting date in June to focus solely on the workforce strategy.

Workforce Investment Board
May 25, 2010
Minutes prepared by Jennifer Luu.

**Tompkins Workforce New York
 One Stop Career Center Report, 5/25/2010**

US Unemployment Rate, April = 9.9
New York State's Unemployment Rate, April = 8.2
Tompkins County Unemployment Rate, April = 5.1 (lowest in NY State)

Impact on Tompkins Workforce New York One Stop Center:

	7/1/09 to 4/30/10 (10 mths)	7/1/08 to 4/30/09 (10 mths)	Number of Participants	PY 2009 over PY 2008 Percent
Active Participants	2,901	2,230	671	30.09
New Registrations	2,017	1,854	163	8.79
Exiters in Period	1,498	1,464	34	2.32

Tompkins Workforce New York Career Center contributions toward Strategic Goals:

1. Increase the number of work-ready, basic skilled workers

- Year round Job LINK program: worker readiness training, case management, work experience, etc
- Summer Youth Employment Program: 2010 summer status uncertain, dependent on NY State budget
- World of Skills Job Fair and Pre-Fair Workshops: job seeker skills, networking and interview preparation
- Elevate America: New on-line technology training, see details on attached press release
- Educational Resources: intensive educational and employment readiness support, GED preparation
- Entry-level SUNY Healthcare Consortium: recruitment, training and support for CNA and HHA positions
- Participated in BOCES Mock Interviewing day and Top Student
- EvenStart: worker readiness, computer training and job seeker preparation (Newfield, Candor and South Seneca)

2. Retain and attract more young adults

- Green Careers Workshops: expanded to include local "green" employers (panels)
- Tourism and Hospitality STAR Initiative: recruitment, curriculum development and training, career ladders
- LEAP: intensive services for at risk college students at TC3
- Internet networking sites: participating in training on Facebook, Blogs, LinkedIn, Twitter, Google, etc
- Re-connected with CU and IC Internship Coordinators
- Economic and Workforce Development presentation for Leadership Tompkins (30 emerging leaders)

3. Prepare for the wave of baby boomer retirements

- Mature Workers: continuing collaborations with CU Encore and Work Experience programs
- Continuing Mature Worker workshops monthly: Jacqui B

4. Facilitate and enable the recruitment of workers for specialized occupations

- Skilled Trades Construction Fair: May 4, (Green, HVAC, Construction, Electrical Tech, etc)
- SMART 2010: new "job lead" service for job seekers, a computer software system that matches skills and experiences of job seekers to jobs posted on Americas Job Exchange
- "Green" presentations and community involvement: Jackie MG
- NY State – re-shifting emphasis "on-the-job" newly released State funding for training/placements
- Continuing planning for Health Expo on 10/14/2010

5. Reduce underemployment and its accompanying under use of talent

6. Increase the workforce system's capacity to manage near-term challenges and opportunities

- Heavily assisted with recruitment and local preparation for Census 2010

"Green and Lean": New initiative for Tompkins Workforce New York

"Going Green" Assessment on paper use, waste reduction, recycling, green purchasing, transportation, composting, utilities, etc, moving to implementation

“**Working Smarter**” Lean training with full analysis of employment and training work flow and research on best practices, supported by Tompkins County, to begin Aug 2010

Emerson Trade Adjustment Assistance: Approved! (TAA) applies to workers who have lost their jobs, or who had their hours of work and wages reduced due to increased imports from or production shift to foreign countries. TAA offers many benefits such as rapid response assistance, re-employment services, job search allowances, moving assistance and training or on-the-job training. Other benefits include Trade Readjustment Allowance (TRA) and Health Coverage Tax Credit (HCTC). Workers who are over 50 years old may qualify for the Alternative Trade Adjustment Assistance (ATAA) program for older workers.

Special note of appreciation and congrats to Wally Powers – retirement after 34 years of service!
Farewell to Jemal Cooper, moved to FT position at TC Department of Social Services
Welcome to Brian Stewart, Summer Project Assistant in computer lab

Elevate America

Free Online Computer Training Available Through Tompkins Workforce New York

New York State, through Tompkins Workforce New York and in cooperation with Microsoft Corporation’s “Elevate America” program, is distributing free vouchers for select e-learning courses and certification exams.

A voucher is a numeric access code provided by Microsoft as part of Elevate America through government-designated agencies. This access code enables individuals to participate in training resources and certification exams for no cost. Vouchers are available for Information/Business Worker Courses (training on Microsoft systems and programs), Information Technology Professional Courses, and Business Certification Exams.

Vouchers are used to activate a “Learning Plan” (a guide to deepening technology skills through online learning) and Microsoft certifications (an industry-standard validation of an individual’s training). *Employees with the New York State Retirement system are not eligible for these vouchers.*

It’s important to act quickly - these vouchers must be distributed and activated before June 24, 2010, and training voucher users have 12 months from the date of activation to access the e-learning courses available under the voucher.

Tompkins Workforce New York has become a testing site for the MOUS and MCAS Microsoft certifications. Contact Brian Stewart to arrange a two hour testing block in June bstewar1@ithaca.edu. Vouchers for certification exams are only valid until June 24, 2010.

“This program is an amazing gift for job seekers continuing to struggle in this challenging job market,” says Diane Bradac, manager of the Tompkins Workforce New York Career Center. “Individuals just can’t go wrong with improving their computer and technology skills. Once the vouchers are activated, people have a year to learn from them.”

Information/Business Worker e-learning courses include training on such applications as Windows Vista; Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint (2003 and 2007 versions); and Microsoft Outlook (2007). Each voucher issued covers one application course; someone who wishes to train on two applications, for example, would need two vouchers.

“If job seekers or underemployed individuals don’t have internet or computer access at home, the career center has a computer lab available Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., with a full-time staff member to help all summer. Call or stop in for more information.”

For more information, contact the Tompkins Workforce New York Career Center at 607-272-7570, or stop in at the Center in Center Ithaca, 171 East State Street/Martin Luther King Jr. Street, Ithaca.

To obtain vouchers or more information:

<http://www.tompkinsworkforceny.org/> or e-mail us at: firststop@tompkins-co.org