

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

SEPTEMBER 25, 2007

8:30 A.M.

TOMPKINS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

PRESENT: R. Bantle, B. Blanchard, R. Bohman, D. Bradac, C. Haynes, L. Holmes, J. Little, J. McPheeters, B. Myers, E. O'Donnell, L. Patz, A. Pedersen, J. Rossi, S. Sammis, M. Talarski, J. Wesche

EXCUSED: D. Chadwick, K. Luz Herrera, P. McKee, M. Opperman,

ABSENT: P. Carey, L. Dillon, D. Herath, L. Leonard, D. Marsh, R. Pass, S. Pronti, N. Zahler

GUESTS: T. Joseph, Tompkins County Legislature

STAFF: J. Mattick, Jennifer Luu

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Little called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. McPheeters reported on the Dryden High School INVEST Program run by Bob Baxter of Dryden Mutual Insurance Company. Mr. Baxter has been running the program, which provides an in-depth review of the insurance industry. Since inception 419 students have participated. This is an excellent example of businesses working with youth in the community.

OFFICER NOMINATIONS

Ms. McPheeters on behalf of the nominating committee annou

Chairman – Alan Pedersen
Vice-Chair – Jeff Wesche
Secretary – Lisa Patz
Treasurer – Jean McPheeters
Past Chair – Jack Little

It was Moved by Ms. McPheeters, seconded by Ms. Blanchard and unanimously adopted by voice vote of members present to accept the slate of officers as presented.

Mr. Pedersen thanked Mr. Little for his leadership last year and stated the Board is moving toward a more patterned transition of leadership in the organization with Mr. Wesche moving into the Chairmanship next year.

He thanked Ms. Myers for agreeing to chair the Youth Employment Council this year and noted her expertise with schools will be invaluable.

Mr. Pedersen appointed and thanked Mr. Stamm for to chairing the Business Services Committee and Mr. Haynes for chairing the Jobseeker Services Committee.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was Moved by Ms. McPheeters, seconded by Mr. Wesche and unanimously adopted by voice vote of members present to approve the minutes of March 27, 2007.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT COUNCIL

APPROVAL OF WIA YOUTH CONTRACT 2007-2008

Ms. Myers reported the Youth Employment Council has been meeting and the group has a wide range of expertise and a willingness to collaborate. They have been discussing soft skills challenges with youth and the best programs to use to address them. They have also been looking at the job market in the next five years.

She reported the Youth Employment Council Performance and Evaluation Committee and the Youth Employment Council have recommended the extension of the WIB's contract with the Office of Employment and Training to operate the Workforce Investment Act Youth Programs. The contract would be extended to run from October 1, 2007 – September 30, 2008.

It was Moved by Ms. Myers, and unanimously seconded on behalf of the Youth Employment Council to approve the extension of the WIA Youth Contract for 2007-2008.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Mattick's written report was distributed and it is included at the end of the minutes. In addition, Ms. Mattick provided an update on the County's expanded budget committee process. She and Mr. Stamm met with the group and the information was well received. The Legislature asked very good questions and it was a good opportunity to provide them with an update on the WIB's activities.

Mr. Joseph stated both Mr. Stamm and Ms. Mattick spoke about the collaboration between economic and workforce development and noted this does not occur in most counties. Ms. Mattick stated Ms. Armstrong has been key to discussions and has totally immersed herself in learning about workforce development. It has been a great opportunity to work together.

ONE STOP CENTER REPORT

Ms. Bradac's written report is included at the end of the minutes.

PRESENTATION – WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY IN TOMPKINS COUNTY

Ms. Armstrong and Ms. Mattick updated the group on the workforce strategy. The strategy will involve three components; an employer survey will be conducted to obtain perspectives on current and projected workforce needs, area labor information, and the economic forecast and gaps in the next five to ten years.

Chmura Economics and Analytics from Richmond, Virginia has been hired. Focus groups were held and the employer survey is being prepared that will be released in the seven county region in November. Updates will continue to be given at subsequent board meetings.

The presentation is available by contacting the Workforce Investment Board office.

PRESENTATION – HOW DOES THE COST OF LIVING IN TOMPKINS COUNTY COMPARE TO OTHER PLACES?

Ms. McPheeters provided a presentation on a survey that was conducted. The ACCRA Cost of Living Index provides comparative data for 290 urban areas. It measures *relative* price levels for consumer goods and services in participating areas and does not measure inflation. Each participant's index is read as a *percentage* of the average for each place. Pricing is done at a specific time and according to standardized specifications.

Ms. McPheeters presentation is available by contacting the Workforce investment Board office.

ADJOURNMENT

It was Moved by Ms. McPheeters, seconded by Ms. Blanchard and unanimously adopted by voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 a.m. The Board will next meet on Tuesday, November 13th at 8:30 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Jennifer Luu.



Tompkins

TOMPKINS COUNTY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

STAFF REPORT

September 2007

Put us to work for you

LOCAL WORKFORCE NEWS

ADVANCE-NY Grants – Several local companies have applied for ADVANCE-NY funding with one award recently announced. The purpose of the funding is to support employer strategies and local efforts for lifelong learning for the development of the incumbent (employed) worker. Continuing to assist businesses in accessing this funding has been a major priority. For further information contact Julia Mattick, Workforce Investment Board or visit www.workforcenewyork.org and click on RFA #25 M.

Summer Youth Employment – Summer Employment programs are wrapping up. Approximately 165 youth were provided summer jobs this year at a large variety of in places of employment.

I Live NY Summit – Last week several local people attended the I Live NY Summit held in Cortland, NY. The Summit brought together more than 500 business and community leaders, young professional organization, education representatives, government agencies, and workforce practitioners. The Summit was conceived of and structured to provide a comprehensive look at the economic, social, cultural and educational forces that lead to job creation, entrepreneurship, and the development of livable communities.

Machining Skills Consortium – Workforce Investment Board and TC3.biz staff have been working with a local group of employers to create an employer led training program for new employees. It is anticipated that the training program will be up and running by November 2007. It is our goal to open the training up to individuals not currently employed once the curriculum is tested and the program is running smoothly.

TOMPKINS LABOR MARKET PROFILE – CHRISTIAN HARRIS, REGIONAL LABOR MARKET ANALYST

Ithaca: Since August 2006, the number of nonfarm jobs was unchanged, and the number of private sector jobs has decreased by 100, or 0.2 percent. The area's unemployment rate was 3.4 percent in August 2007, compared with 3.8 in July and 3.5 in August 2006.

AUGUST 2007 TOMPKINS MOST OPENINGS BY OCCUPATION

Total Job Openings: **493**

Occupation	#Openings	% All Openings
Construction	60	12%
Sales and Related	60	12%
Production	48	9.7%
Office and Related Clerical	44	8.9%
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	40	8.1%

Workforce Investment Board Meeting Tompkins Workforce New York Report – Summer 2007



TANF Summer Youth Employment Highlights:

Tompkins Workforce New York and the **Ithaca City Youth Bureau** operated the 2007 Summer TANF Youth Employment and Education Program for 163 youth ages of 14-20 living in families who receive TANF benefits or who are at or below 200% of the federal poverty level. Thirty-nine participants were residents from Lansing Residential, Louis Gossett and MacCormick residential centers. In addition to 65 individual worksite placements at local businesses and organizations, eight staff provided direct supervision for seven project teams; Ithaca Downtown Partnership, SPARKS Corps, Groton Maintenance Team X-tra, Groton Generation-Z Environmental, Trumansburg Team, Newfield Team, and the ITECS Corps.

Each participant was eligible for 120 hours of paid, supervised work experience and was provided an orientation covering work expectations, safety and laws, program guidelines, timesheets and payroll, attendance and appropriate workplace behavior, etc. Youth were able to select up to 20 hours of paid training on topics such as worker readiness, customer service, teamwork, communication and interpersonal styles, life skills, diversity, working well with co-workers and supervisors, leadership, career exploration, dealing with difficult people, conflict resolution and budgeting/financial planning.

Youth had the option to attend “behind the scenes” tours of twelve local businesses; The Thomas Group, Ithaca Fire Department, Wegmans, Cayuga Medical Center, CBORD, Longview, Alterra, TC Crash Fire and Rescue, AFCU, CFCU, GreenStar, and the TC 911 Emergency Center.

Collaborating Organizations: Department of Social Services, Youth Services, CCE Rural Youth Services, Office of Children and Family Services, Ithaca Downtown Partnership, and the Groton School District.

Upcoming Events and Programs:

Recruitment and Study Sessions for **TC Clerical Exams, Corrections and Police Exam** (City)
Commercial Driver’s License class to begin in Oct. (since 06; 26 in training, 18 FT employed)
Oct 22-24: Fall NYATEP, NYSDOL, SUNY **Workforce New York Fall Conference**
Oct 27: co-sponsor for **Path to Success**, Alfred Watts, 10:00-4:00pm, I.H.S. (career exploration and self esteem workshop for teens and young adults)
Oct 30: **Workers Compensation Reform in NYS**, sponsored by TC JSEC, 8-10:30, Country Club
Nov: **Best Practices for Workforce Diversification**, training session, date pending
Dec 14: Applications for **Pre-Construction Preparedness Course** Due, course begins 2/26/08

Workforce New York One Stop Highlights and Involvements:

Tompkins County Recycling and Reuse Effort: participant

Sept 18th “I Live NY Summit”: participant

Tompkins County “Strength in Diversity” Kick-Off: strong support of initiative

Migrant Workers: teen outreach, job search and career exploration

WIA Youth and Summer TANF Monitoring: reviews complete and successful, met or exceeded nine performance measures

Joint Youth Commission: held youth employment support and customer service training, May and August sessions, 22 youth

Brainteaser Training Series: collaborative training for municipal employees (Customer Service, Crankiness, Part I and II, Assertive Communication, and Excel Level I and II)

Youth Employment Council: held retreat and project sub-committees forming

TC Budget Support: request to Tompkins County Budget and Capital Committee, \$30,000 OTR for multi-year maintenance of effort

Adult Ex-Offender Re-employment Initiative: RFP grant released, possible application

TCAD Economic Development Employer Panels: participant

TC Diversity Consortium and SHRM: participants

Possible funding changes in **NYS Workforce Development allocations:** July 08

Services, Activities and Participants:

TWNY One Stop Orientation and Assessments: 127

E-Training: 16

Workshops: 44 (job search, networking, resume critique, interviewing, etc)

Professional Opportunities Development group: 34

Social Security Work Incentive and Disability Disclosure sessions: 26, 18

Employer Sessions and Recruitment:

Wilson Farms

Franziska Racker Center

Mploy

Elderchoice

One Source

Matrix

Janitronics

CU Career Preparation Workshops

CU General Employment and Career Fair

Prepared by Diane Bradac, One Stop Center Manager
Tompkins Workforce New York, 607-272-7570 ext 129