

Workforce Investment Board of Columbia & Greene Counties

Minutes for June 20, 2001
Columbia Greene Community College
Staff Cafeteria
4400 Route 23 Hudson, NY 12534

Attendance:

Present: Kit Ali, Cynthia Baez, Rikki Beal, John Betts, Robert Bodratti, Paul Dellio, Karen Diffley, Tom Every, Tom Flemming, Patrick Hernandez, Al Hulick, Brian Keeler, David Leavitt, Joyce Lissandrello, Peter Markou, Colleen Rundell, David Segalla, Norma Shook, Lynn Strunk, Sarah Witham, Geraldine Wolfe, Anthony Zibella.

Excused: Bruce Bohnsack, Edward Daly, Barbara Eacott, Aaron Flach, Raymond Kottke, Jessica Nabozny, Richard Phelan, George Skraastad, Bernardina Torrey.

Absent: Gary Balfour, Marylou Eisenhardt, Skip Gerard, Donald Spitz.

One Stop Staff: M. A. Wiltse

Consultant: Betty Ann Falkner

Guests: James Robertson, Jim Cullie, Ernie Reese, Pat Hamilton

With 22 members in attendance, a quorum is present.

WELCOME

The meeting began with the Introduction of two new appointees from Columbia County, Rikki Beal and Colleen Rundell.

STATUS OF VACANCIES

There are still three vacancies for Greene County. Two names have been forwarded to the Greene County Legislature for approval.

CORRESPONDENCE

Two letters were received, one from the Greene County Legislature regarding reappointments, replacement members and rotating members. The other letter was from the Columbia County Legislature also regarding reappointments, new members, replacements and rotating appointments. Three letters were sent to Senator Clinton, Senator Schumer and Representative Sweeney regarding the rescinding of federal funds.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Chairman Zibella asked for a motion to accept the February 28, 2001 minutes as written. A motion was made by Peter Markou and seconded by Norma Shook. Motion to accept was unanimous.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Labor Market Coordination Report:

In the absence of Richard Phelan, Betty Ann Falkner reported on the Board Retreat held May 30, 2001 at the Freehold Country Inn. The Board looked into answering the nine policy questions. One strong issue that came out of the Retreat was the issue of work readiness. Members asked about developing a committee to address the Work Readiness issue. The chairman can appoint an Ad Hoc committee to deal with this issue. Before doing that the chairman asked that volunteers get in touch with Betty Ann Falkner and then if the need was present to make this an Ad Hoc committee it would be reviewed at that time. The Skills Standards committee would look into this issue.

Executive Committee:

Anthony Zibella reported on the April 11th and May 7th committee meetings. The committee resolved to use One Stop Implementation grant funds to set up affiliated career resource room sites with the Mid-Hudson Library Association, Greene County Community Action and Columbia Opportunities. The Board also reviewed the by-laws and make necessary changes. Changes were also made to the committee structure. A new Partners committee was formed. The Committee also looked at meeting attendance.

Marketing Committee:

John Betts reported that the One Stop web site is up and available for review. The web site is not completely finished, but John related that it appeared to be user friendly and he was very pleased with it. Links have been set up with the Partners. Application is now being made for the domain name Columbia Greene Works.

Skills Standards Committee:

Karen Diffley reported on the June 5th committee meeting. The committee reviewed the ITA funding levels. Due to the wage issue, the committee resolved to change the ITA amounts based on the mean hourly wage. Five levels of funding were set up. Because New York State does not have a local reporting mechanism in place, the committee decided to have ITA Provider Reports for WIA students for Columbia and Greene Counties made public to consumers to view the performance of training vendors on an annual basis.

Quality Improvement:

Kit Ali reported on the May 23rd committee meeting. The committee reviewed the need for Certification of the One Stop Center. They decided to work towards meeting the seven criteria for Quality. The local Board will need to certify the Center first and then application is made to New York State for approval. There is also an annual or 18 month recertification process.

Youth Council:

Pat Hernandez reported on the several Youth Council meetings held in the past three months. The Council has evaluated all youth programs funded through WIA during the past year. The Council then sent out Request for Proposals for the 2001-02 Program year. Pat stressed that in reviewing the proposals the Youth Council looked to identify potential duplication of services and then to not fund a program if it was available through other resources. The Council also strived to keep a 60%-40% funding balance between the counties. This has resulted in the decision not to allocate all the available youth funds until September. Because of this, and because of cut-backs to the PY 01 allocation, certain program proposals were denied funding and other programs were reduced from the amount requested.

ONE STOP OPERATOR DIRECTOR'S REPORT

M.A. Wiltse gave a Budget Report for the One Stop. She explained that funds have been cut back 15% from last year. There is also an effort underway by the Federal government to rescind funds, which could result in another \$80,000 being cut from the current budget. M. A. shared the Participation Report on the number of persons being served by the One Stop Center. A Report on the very successful 2nd Annual Job Fair held on April 24th was also presented. M. A. also gave a report on the Certified Nurse's Aid program. There were over 20 students attending. This program is a model of how Workforce Development works. Many different agencies partnered to assist the students. This coming together avoids duplication of services and maximizes the use of everyone's resources.

OLD BUSINESS

- MOU- Received Final approval by the Department of Labor and the State Education Department.

M. A. reported that the partners would now need to re-sign the documents.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolutions:

- Resolved to accept revisions to Board bylaws. A motion to accept was made by Peter Markou and seconded by Sarah Witham. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

- Resolved to involve the Continuous Quality Improvement Committee in preparing for State Certification by utilizing the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award Criteria. A motion to accept was made by Kit Ali and seconded by David Leavitt. All were in favor and the motion was approved.
- Resolved that the ITA Provider Reports for WIA students for Columbia and Greene counties will be made public to consumers to view the performance of a training vendor on an annual basis. A motion to accept was made by Robert Bodratti and seconded by Norma Shook. All were in favor and the motion was approved.
- Resolved to change the ITA amounts based on mean hourly wages to new limits. A motion to accept was made by Joyce Lissandrello and seconded by Paul Dellio. All were in favor and the motion was approved.
- Resolved to accept Youth Council funding recommendations for the 2001-02- program year as follows:
 - Cairo-Durham- \$8,308- A motion to accept was made by Geraldine Wolfe and was seconded by Peter Markou. All were in favor and the motion was approved with David Leavitt abstaining.
 - Catskill School-Project Apple-not recommended due to limited monies and similarities to other programs in the area. A motion to accept was made by Peter Markou and seconded by Kit Ali. All were in favor and the motion was approved with David Leavitt abstaining.
 - Catskill GED- \$63,145- A motion to accept was made by Norma Shook and seconded by Peter Markou. All were in favor and the motion was approved with David Leavitt and Geraldine Wolfe abstaining.
 - Columbia Greene Mental Health Association-not recommended due to it not being a workforce development program. A motion to accept was made by Sarah Witham and seconded by Joyce Lissandrello. All were in favor and the motion was approved with David Leavitt abstaining.
 - Greenville- \$19,515- A motion to accept was made by Peter Markou and seconded by Robert Bodratti. All were in favor and the motion was approved with David Leavitt abstaining.
 - Hudson School GED-Not recommended for funding limited monies and similarities to other programs in the area. Due to miscommunication and confusion on the part of some Youth Council members it was recommended that the matter be sent back to the Youth Council to discuss. A motion to table the matter was made by Peter Markou and seconded by Brian Keeler. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

- Hunter Tannersville-\$9,428- A motion to accept was made by Peter Markou and seconded by Robert Bodratti. All were in favor and the motion was approved with David Leavitt abstaining.
 - Windham-Ashland-Jewett-\$5,105 - A motion to accept was made by Peter Markou and seconded by Robert Bodratti. All were in favor and the motion was approved with David Leavitt abstaining.
 - YES- \$46,785 - - A motion to accept was made by Norma Shook and seconded by Joyce Lissandrello. All were in favor and the motion was approved with David Leavitt and Robert Bodratti abstaining.
- The Youth Council resolved to approve youth attending occupational training that is on the NYS provider list at the following Schools: Columbia Greene Community College, Modern Welding, Commercial Drivers Training, depending on the availability of youth funds. A motion to accept was made by Joyce Lissandrello and seconded by Karen Diffley. All were in favor and the motion was approved.
 - The Youth Council resolved to accept Columbia Greene Community College, Office of Community Services as the provider for the State TANF Summer Youth Employment Program's Contextualized Vocational Education component. A motion to accept was made by Tom Every and seconded by Sarah Witham. All were in favor and the motion was approved with Robert Bodratti abstaining.
 - Resolved to accept Youth Council recommendations on changes to the Basic Skills Attainment definitions. A motion to accept was made by Robert Bodratti and seconded by Lynn Strunk. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

GOOD AND WELFARE

Betty Ann Falkner spoke on the clarification of roles of the WIO Director and WIB Consultant.

Chairman Zibella announced that the Board Meeting Schedule has been set for the year. The Board meeting will be held on:

- Monday, September 17, 2001 @ 5:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, January 9, 2002 @ 8:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, March 26, 2002 @ 5:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, June 19, 2002 @ 8:30 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn by Lynn Strunk and seconded by Joyce Lissandrello. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.