

**MINUTES
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING**

March 3, 2021

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Virtual via ZOOM

MEMBERS ATTENDED

John Sarcone

William Kurz

May-Whei Lin

Tom Bruno

Jon Siskind

Jay Fund

Edward Eisenstein

Edmund Koeppel

Barry Greenspan

Walter Markowitz, Ed.D

Anthony Porcelli

Maria Themistocleous -Frey

Martin Murphy

Glen Wolther

Cheryl Davison

WDB DIRECTOR

Kurz Planning, Inc/Chair.

NYS Department of Labor

Hicksville Youth Council

Independent Consultant

Hunter Business School

United Network Associates

Nassau Community College

Empire State Development – Regional Office Long Island

Hofstra University

Hofstra University

ECNY Corp. /ECNY Foundation

Long Island Regional Adult Education Network

All Round Bakery Products

Northwell Health

ABSENT MEMBERS

Gemma DeLeon-LoPresti

Nicole Grodner

Jill Gunzel

Douglas Kowaiczik

Elvira Lovaglio-Duncan

Veronica Rose-Craig

Keith Sperling

John Durso

Sunita Manjrekar

Ryan Schlotter

John Keating

Mario Martinez

Local 1102

Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters

Albrecht, Viggiano, Zureck & Co. P.C.

Hi Tempco

Urban League of Westchester

ACCES-VR

National Grid

Long Island Federation of Labor, Local 338

Nassau County Department of Social Services

Oyster Bay Brewing CO.

PSEG

PT. Washington Community Action Council

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Viviana Russell	Councilwoman Town of North Hempstead
Hal Mayer	TOB Representing Supervisor
Ann Fangmann	City of Glen Cove
Dr. Errin Hatwood	Great Neck Public Schools
Dawn Nolan	Nassau Community College
Michele Cohen	Nassau BOCES
Kathleen Maffucci	Nassau BOCES
Sagar Mehta	Representative North Hempstead
Regina Zara	Siemens
Shital Patel	NYSDOL
Nick Spinelli	ACCESS
Hawa Basset	North Hempstead
Nicholas Amador	Farmingdale College
Frank V. Sammartano	Town of Oyster Bay Commissioner of IGA
Samantha Vnook	Town of Oyster Bay IGA
Christine D'Amico	Town of Oyster Bay IGA
Michele Oliva	Town of Oyster Bay IGA
Brigid Hand	Town of Oyster BAY IGA
Jennifer Pravato	Town of Oyster Bay IGA
Dennis Palmieri	Town of Oyster Bay IGA
Gail Parainfo	Town of Oyster Bay IGA
Linda Scalera	Town of Oyster Bay IGA
Rich Carozza	Town of Oyster Bay IGA
Gus Mavroudis	Town of Oyster Bay IGA
Maria Mistrion	Town of Oyster Bay IGA
Leanne Allocca	Town of Oyster Bay IGA
Marie Calamia	Town of Oyster Bay IGA

John Sarcone called meeting to order at 10:01 am.

William Kurz welcomes everyone to meeting. Motion to accept last board meeting in December was presented by William Kurz. Motion to accept by Jen Pravato and Maria Frey.

John Sarcone speaks about new RFP for workshop providers. March 11 is the bid meeting. Services will include virtual. Out of School Youth RFP will be put together in April and will go into Newsday and be sent out once completed. Classroom training cap is currently \$6,500, but could be increased to reflect sensitivity to customer's current situation. Hempstead's is \$8,000, we might match. \$6,500 is not adequate anymore.

Some discussion about would \$8,000 be sufficient and when was the \$6,500 established. Gail said \$6,500 was put in place when budgetary issues occurred and has been this way since. \$8,000 was agreed to be a good start for raising cap.

Gail Parainfo spoke about the MOU (memorandum of understanding) which will allow shared services between the WIB Board and the Partners of American Job Center. Customers will have access to more services and referrals between agencies. Partners must agree how to compute expenses before being sent into DOL. 3 years long ending on 6/30/2023.

John Sarcone thanks Gail. Lifeguard opportunities are available in City of Glen Cove, will share info via email. Introduces Councilwoman Viviana Russell.

Councilwoman Viviana Russell thanks John. Listening to everyone's thoughts and gives well wishes to all.

John Sarcone speaks about on 2/25 the Governor announced ID verification measures to combat Unemployment Fraud. Will share press release with all via email. Asks if anyone would like to add.

Walter Markowitz asks if there are any changes from the Federal Gov't.

John Sarcone replies that he is in contact with NYATEP group who are engaged with workforce initiatives and sharing ideas with others. Congress is advocating, we are just waiting.

Linda Scalera announces she found email from 2016 about the Classroom Training cap being \$6,500, so hasn't changed in at least 5 years.

John Sarcone agrees that discussions need to be had to increase the limit.

Members state that maybe the classroom training board should be flexible and look at case by case basis to approve more funding due to current situation but agree cap should be increased.

John Sarcone agreed and said that Board can be polled once official language in put into place regarding cap increase.

Questions regarding a downside to increasing the cap were brought up. Doesn't seem like there are, but a draft of policy needs to be sent out to WIB board for approval before anything can happen.

Gail Parainfo stated we are suffering from lack of enrollment so anything virtual could be helpful. Increasing the cap will benefit people in need but has to be monitored and adjusted if needed.

Jay Fund thanks John Sarcone, Frank Sammartano and May Whei-Lin for their help. Brought up issue about how money coming from DOL may put strain on classroom training schools with new policy.

Group discussed how technology is changing and new LMS (learning management systems) are being used. They are going to engage students in the classroom and could be a better learning experience. New technology is getting better but issues could arise, like students not having access. Idea of “blended learning” is attempting to accommodate all and give students a chance to decide how they will learn.

Micro learning was also discussed. Produces better retention rates. Becoming more popular.

Maria Frey announced that the Job Search Boot Camp is open for registration. John will send info to all via email.

John Sarcone expects the next WIB meeting will be “blended”, so attendees can either be in person or on Zoom, whichever is preferred. Business services team is also looking for OJT (on the job training) opportunities, please get word out to businesses. Christine D’Amico and Linda Scalera are contacts for that.

William Kurz asks if there is any new or old business anyone would like to bring up. No responses. Makes motion to adjourn meeting. Motion to accept by Jon Siskind and Jen Pravato. He thanks all for attending.

John Sarcone thanks all.

Meeting closed at 10:47 am.