

**NEW YORK CITY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD  
WORKFORCE POLICY COMMITTEE**

Meeting of May 12, 2011

At the New York City Department of Small Business Services  
110 William Street, 7th Floor  
New York, NY 10038

**MINUTES**

**Committee Members Present:**

Horace Barker, Marc Leff, Pat Fahy, Joe McDermott, William Abrahamson, Colvin Grannum

**Also Present:**

Phil Weinberg, Lea Kilraine, Deldreana Peterkin, Cesar Cardenas, Angie Kamath, Jennifer Tavis, Sara Schlossberg, John Moye, Katie Schwab

Horace Barker, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the February 17, 2011 meeting of the Workforce Policy Committee (WPC) were approved.

Horace Barker welcomed the Committee and provided members with an overview of the meeting agenda.

**Policy Committee Reviewed Funding Cuts to Workforce Investment Act Programs in federal FY 2011**

WIB staff Cesar Cardenas briefly presented a review of WIA-related details from the federal Fiscal Year 2011 budget deal reached in April 2011. The details Cesar shared set the context for a discussion later in the meeting about upcoming changes to SBS individual training grant (ITG) policy in light of a drastically reduced budget for ITGs in FY2011. While this final FY 2011 spending law cut WIA Title 1 programs by approximately 10%, that outcome was better than a proposal that passed the House of Representatives in February and threatened to “zero out” WIA programs nationwide effective July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012.

**LMIS Update and Program Report**

Lesley Hirsch, of the NYC Labor Market Information Service (NYCLMIS) presented preliminary findings from the New York State Green Jobs Research Project. NYCLMIS is working closely with the WIB, the New York City Employment and Training Coalition, the City University of New York, and employers in undertaking this study. The findings suggested New York State has a higher proportion of green employment than other states. In addition, local and state laws, policies and practices appear to be influential in the “greening” of certain economic sectors, with New York City acting as a role model for the private sector in its own energy efficiency practices and staff development. Across all industries, the employer survey found that many companies that already have green employment expect to have more green employment in a year. The final results of the survey are currently being analyzed and are expected to be release in full at the end of August 2011.

**Overview of Proposed SBS Training Strategy**

Members then heard from Sara Schlossberg of the SBS Workforce Development Division who informed the group of potential adjustments to SBS training strategy investments that will focus the program exclusively on a narrowed scope of occupational trainings that have consistently led to career pathways

and middle-skill level wages for trainees and which have resulted in competitive gains for employers. Sara also described plans to offer certain kinds of higher-value, standardized training for individuals that are not ITG eligible and of leveraging the Workforce1 sector centers as a key component of a final training strategy, including plans to build and lead industry consortiums that train workers from multiple businesses at once. The members engaged Sara in a discussion of her presentation.

### **Policy Committee Brainstorming Session**

Horace Barker called for a brainstorming session at his office in advance of the August meeting. The purpose of this session is to begin identifying workforce initiatives of interest to the policy committee that the committee could pursue over the course of the next year.

### **Conclusion**

Following the business described above, the meeting was adjourned.