

**Town of Hempstead**  
**Local Workforce Development Board**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**HempsteadWorks Career Center**

**June 22, 2016**

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

The meeting was convened at 9:35 A.M. by Alan Nachman, Vice Chairman. Mr. Nachman asked the attendees to introduce themselves.

**II. Review of Meeting Minutes**

The Vice Chairman indicated that all of the members received a copy of the minutes from our meeting of April 20, 2016 in the mail and asked if there were any changes or corrections necessary. A motion to approve the minutes was offered by Mark Goldstein, seconded by Roslyn Goldmacher and approved by the members.

**III. Review of Year-Round In-School Youth and Summer Youth Employment Program Proposals**

Mr. Nachman explained that on May 18, 2016, the Youth Standing Committee of the Board reviewed proposals submitted in response to our In-School Youth and Summer Youth Employment Program Request for Proposals. He introduced Dr. Richard E. Dibble, Chairman of the Committee, and asked him to summarize the recommendations of the Committee regarding the proposals. Dr. Dibble reported that that Committee had reviewed proposals pertaining to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Year-Round Program and the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP), which is funded under Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) section of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act. He directed the Board members to review the same documents that were reviewed by the Youth Standing Committee, including the following:

1. Letters from United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc. and the Five Towns Community Center, Inc. which both offered praise and support for the SYEP;
2. Fact sheets pertaining to both programs, which summarized how the programs would operate, along with how their budgets were calculated;

3. Budget summaries pertaining to each program, which listed the amounts requested by each proposed program operator.

Dr. Dibble informed the Board that in Program Year 2016, which covers the period of July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017, the program operators will be performing services for the second year of a two-year contract. He stated that the Youth Standing Committee had reviewed revised program budgets for Program Year 2016 because the method for calculating those budgets was changed to be better aligned with WIOA requirements and also to ensure that the most accurate and up-to-date financial information was provided in the proposals. Sal Scibetta explained how the budgets were calculated. Mr. Scibetta also explained that the budgets included all of the contractors that were approved at the beginning of the contract cycle, including the following:

1. Baldwin Public Schools;
2. Five Towns Community Center;
3. Hempstead Public Schools;
4. Roosevelt Public Schools;
5. Sewanhaka Public Schools
6. Uniondale Public Schools
7. United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc.

He stated further that Sewanhaka Public Schools did not participate in Program Year 2015 (July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016), but that it has submitted a budget to perform services in the upcoming Program Year. Dr. Dibble indicated that at the time that the Youth Standing Committee reviewed these proposals the WIOA Youth allocation to the Town of Hempstead/City of Long Beach for the coming year had been announced by the New York State Department of Labor (NYSDOL); however, we had not yet been informed of the amount of the allocation under the SYEP TANF Program by the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA). Dr. Dibble reported that the Committee passed a motion to recommend to the Local Workforce Development Board that the budget templates be approved as presented, with the understanding that the amounts of the budgets might be increased or decreased, based upon any changes in the allocations which might be made. He added that at the time of this meeting, the budget allocations have been made available and the final proposed budgets with our contractors can be considered. Mr. Nachman opened the floor to any questions or comments. Hearing none, a motion was made by Ms. Goldmacher to approve the budgets, seconded by Mr. Goldstein and adopted by the Board.

#### **IV. Presentations by Out-of-School Youth Contractors**

Mr. Nachman introduced Myesha Arvon, HempsteadWorks Youth Coordinator, who then introduced the Denise Marcel of Nassau BOCES. Ms. Marcel described the out-of-school youth program that the Nassau BOCES operates under a contract with the Town of Hempstead Department of Occupational Resources (DOOR). She then introduced Dante Salkey, who is a participant in the program. Mr. Salkey explained that he had lived in seven locations in five years before becoming homeless and being forced to live in his car. Through the program he attained his GED and completed training funded by ACCESS-VR. He ultimately found employment at a salary of \$15.75 per hour. Ms. Marcel indicated that Mr. Salkey is a talented singer and that he auditioned for the television program entitled “The Voice.” Mr. Salkey sung briefly for the Board and the members responded with applause.

Ms. Arvon then introduced Shereen Goodson and Edward Patton of EAC Network, who described “Mission Employment,” which is an out-of-school youth program that their organization operates, also under a contract with DOOR. Ms. Goodson shared the following success story.

In January of 2016, Lamar Phillips enrolled in the Town of Hempstead Department of Occupational Resources (DOOR) Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth Program at the HempsteadWorks Career Center. He was provided with career counseling, assessment and tutoring services by EAC, Inc. through funding provided by DOOR. The purpose of the tutoring services was to increase his math proficiency. Having expressed an interest in the construction industry, Mr. Phillips was referred by EAC, Inc. to apply for a Pre-Apprenticeship Training Program operated by Opportunities Long Island, a division of the Labor Education and Community Services Agency, Inc. (LESCA). Opportunities Long Island conducts the program in partnership with the Nassau/Suffolk Building Trades Council.

It is an intensive ten-week course that provides trainees with training under the following topics: Orientation, Industry Awareness, Background of the Construction Trades, Tools and Materials, Tool Description and Usage, CPR and First Aid (Certificate), OSHA 10 (Certificate), Blueprint Reading, Basic Math for Construction, Green Technology, Heritage of the American Worker – Labor History, Career Development, and Interaction with the Building Trades. The training is conducted at a variety of venues, including United Way of Long Island’s E3 SmartBuild Training Center, where OSHA training and career development services are offered. DOOR not only pays the tuition for the program, but also for the transportation expenses of the trainees. The entrance requirements for the Pre-Apprenticeship Program include passing a math and a reading test.

Based upon the tutoring he received and the maximum effort he applied, Mr. Phillips passed the tests and met the other entrance requirements. He started training on February 10, 2016 and completed the program on April 6<sup>th</sup>. On April 14, 2016, through a referral made by Opportunities Long Island, Mr. Phillips started his employment as an apprentice with the Local 361 Structural Ironworkers. He is currently employed on a full-time basis at a rate of \$25.60 per hour. His total compensation package, which includes salary, pension, health care, vacation and an annuity, is valued at \$49.63 per hour.

## **V. Funding Update**

Commissioner Hurtado explained that WIOA Formula Funds are federal funds appropriated by Congress to serve adults, youth and dislocated workers, which are allotted to each state and then subsequently allocated to local areas within states. She stated that both the amounts allotted to states and the amounts allocated to local areas are based upon relative numbers of unemployed, long-term unemployed and disadvantaged individuals. She indicated that the U.S. Department of Labor allots Formula Funds to the Governor of each state. The states are entitled to retain up to 15% of these funds before allocating the balance to local areas.

Ms. Hurtado explained that in our state, the New York State Department of Labor (NYSDOL) allocates the funds to the local areas on behalf of the Governor. She stated that this year NYSDOL retained 15% of the Formula Funds, while in the most recent prior years, NYSDOL retained only 5%. Ms. Hurtado indicated that the amount allocated for Program Year 2016 (July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017) is 11.8% less than the amount allocated for Program Year 2015 (July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016). She also stated that the amount allocated for Program Year 2016 (July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017) is 19.3% less than the amount allocated for Program Year 2014 (July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015).

Commissioner Hurtado explained further that funding for a Summer Youth Employment Program is allocated to our area by the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance under the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Program. She stated that this year our funding allocation for this program is 22% less than it was last year. She indicated that approximately 1,000 less customers will be served in the WIOA and TANF Programs in Program Year 2016 than were served in Program Year 2015. She indicated that Henry Graber, CPA, who is the Chairman of the Local Workforce Development Board, has written letters on behalf of the LWDB to our federal and state legislators to ask them to review the allocation process and to assist the local area in increasing the allocation levels. She indicated that we are also reviewing all appropriate grant opportunities to supplement the funding reductions.

Ms. Hurtado presented the budget for PY'16. A motion was offered by Mr. Goldstein to approve the budget. The motion was seconded by Mr. Nachman and approved by the Board.

Discussion ensued regarding supplemental sources of funding. Edward Kenny explained that the Board had applied for and been awarded funding under the Long Island Regional Economic Development Council's Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) Unemployed Worker Training (UWT) Program in 2011, 2014 and 2015. He indicated that a CFA is being prepared for 2016. Mr. Kenny explained that while the CFA UWT Program Grants support additional training, they do not provide additional funding that is much needed for administration and overhead costs.

## **VI. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was offered by Mr. Goldstein. The motion was seconded by Ms. Goldmacher and adopted by the Board. The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 A.M.