

**ORANGE COUNTY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

September 15, 2017 – 8:00 a.m.

18 Seward Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room, Middletown, NY

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

**MISSION: To create effective strategic alliances that support the development of talent to meet the workforce needs of job seekers and regional businesses.**

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**PRESENT:** Amanda Dana, Mary DeFreitas, Dr. James DeViscio,, Bill Edwards (for Craig Jacobs), Lisa Halpern, David Kohn, Tarsha McNeil, John Malmgreen, Daniel O’Shea, Charles Quinn, Peter Romano, Dennis Yorke

Ms. Kathleen Kenney from the NYSDOL, who has replaced Ms. Nancy Bell, was present.

**CALL TO ORDER/OPENING REMARKS:** Ms. DeFreitas welcomed everyone before calling the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

Ms. Marie Blair gave the Director’s Report in Mr. Knob’s absence.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Since there was no quorum present (11 members), the approval for the WDB meeting minutes from the May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 will be postponed until the next meeting on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT:** Ms. Blair announced that the annual Fall Job Fair, held at the Newburgh Mall each year, will be held on Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Newburgh Mall is under new ownership, who have agreed to let us hold job fair again this year.

Mini job fairs are held in each Career Center every month. This month’s job fairs have over 20 employers participating. There is a lot of employer interest in these mini job fairs, that attract quite a few job seekers.

The Jobs Waiting Program was part of a grant that Westchester County received for the Hudson Valley to serve long term unemployed (27 weeks or more unemployed) that had an interest in working in the healthcare field. The program entails a job training intensive boot camp that addressed soft skills as well as healthcare specific industry skills. After completing the boot camp, graduates have many support services and training opportunities that they can access. Below is a a summary of the Orange County Jobs Waiting Program:

- Enrollments – Goal-128; Actual-168
- Individual Training Accounts for training in the Healthcare Sector – Goal-151; Actual 137 (\*On-going)
- Placements – Goal-130; Actual-80\* (\*On-going)
- Individual Training Accounts were issued for a total of \$492,000 (with many graduates attending SUNY Orange and Orange-Ulster BOCES)

The next grant under Jobs Waiting, Tech Hire, has started. This grant will serve 18-29 year old individuals that have an interest in working in the healthcare or technology field. It will operate under the same guidelines as the original Jobs Waiting grant, however, Orange County only needs to enroll 68 individuals.

**SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM REPORT:** Ms. Carmen Lucinares, the O.C. Youth Services Coordinator, along with Mr. Larry Gotham, Orange-Ulster BOCES Summer Youth Program Coordinator, presented a video and distributed informational handouts concerning this year's program. A video, produced by the SY Junior Counselors demonstrating proper workplace etiquette/behavior was shown. Participants in the program earned \$9.70/hour and could work up to 30 hours per week. Various worksites in Newburgh, Middletown and Port Jervis were used for the five week program. This year, there were 209 participants.

**OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:** Ms. Dana stated that Legoland got the zoning changed in Goshen and cleared another hurdle in the meeting last night. The site plan needs approval next which should be received within the next 30-60 days. Ms. Katie Worthington, a representative from the Winter Haven Chamber of Commerce where Florida's Legoland is located, spoke at that meeting. Winter Haven is where Cypress Gardens was located, and was one of the first theme parks in the country. She provided a testimonial for Legoland's benefits. There could be 500 full time employees; mechanics, machinists, accountants, security, office staff, etc. Legoland would like to be open in the summer of 2019. The casino in Sullivan County is scheduled to be open in 2018.

David Kohn gave an update of SUNY Orange's recent Leadership appointments:

Gerianne Brusati, VP for Student Services, December 2016

Erika Hackman, VP for Academic Affairs, May 2016

Linda Dauer, VP for Administration and Finance, July 2016

Stacey Moegenburg, AVP for Liberal Arts, July 2017

Anne Prial, AVP for Business, Math, Science and Technology, July 2017

Dena Whipple, Interim AVP for Learning and Student Success, July 2017

Michael Tharp, Chief Information Officer, September 2017

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 a.m.