

WORKFORCE ALLIANCE BUSINESS OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Thursday, August 6, 2009 10:00am

Attending: David Talley, Amy Dean and Randy Johnson

Staff: Steve Craig, Jackie Halderman, Gerry Genovese, Rick Hemming, Maria Heredia and Holly Finch

- I. Call Meeting to Order/Welcome - David Talley
- II. Review/Accepted Meeting Minutes – June 4, 2009
- III. No Changes to the Agenda

IV. OLD BUSINESS

a. Health Care Initiative

Steve Craig said that Workforce Alliance is training 12 recently graduated RNs using On-the-Job Training (OJT) and Employed Worker Training (EWT) funds in a partnership with Gardens Medical Center. Gerry Genovese said that plans are underway to expand the training throughout the Tenet Hospitals. Steve Craig said that Doug Saenz has been working on training grants. Amy Dean said that she wanted to say that staff are doing a great job brining partners together and that she is excited for a recent grant application in process.

b. Business Development Board (BDB)/Workforce Alliance projects

Gerry Genovese said that he participated in a campus management meeting with the Boca Mayor, Susan Whelchel regarding the expansion of a software company that will employ 320 people.

c. Enterprise Florida Strategic Planning

Steve Craig said that a two page write up for the plan was submitted. More information will be available at the upcoming state meeting. Chris Hart was on the panel and that Enterprise Florida is holding events around the state to gather input and feedback. The state will also be putting together a plan over the next five months and then the Local Workforce Board will be asked to do the same.

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. Next Forum and Summit Date

Steve Craig reported that Geoffrey Colvin will present "Talent is Overrated" at the Workforce Summit 2010 on May 7. We are also planning a Workforce Leadership Forum event on "Ethics" on Wednesday, January 27th, 2010.

b. 2009-2010 State Service Plan

Steve Craig said that the plan was sent to the board and was posted on our website for the 30-day comment period which ended August 12th, one comment was received, and the attachments are ready for board signature at the board meeting. The consortium meets Sept. 16th and the final signatures will be added before the full plan is submitted to the state.

c. Youth Summer Jobs Update

Steve Craig said the Summer Youth Employment program has been extremely successful. He said that the state monitors did not have any findings and were very impressed with the program. Rick Hemming said the board can be proud for sending 1010 young adults to work and that approximately 250 will be retained by the employers when the program is over September 30. He also said that because of our success, we may be able to apply for additional funding for next year. Rick Hemming said that one of the projects is the video production to document the program and its success. The final video will be used in Washington D.C. to request additional funding for a summer employment program next year. He will be making a full presentation to the board on the program.

Steve Craig said the business services team did an outstanding job working with employers to get contracts signed, job orders filled and young adults into great jobs with potential. David Talley said the staff is to be commended for this program. Randy Johnson said he believes our program is one of the top in the state.

- VI. General Discussion – David Talley said he would like to suggest the meeting time be changed to 9 a.m. to immediately follow the Legislative Committee meeting. Steve Craig said he would contact the co-chairs and copy his message to Randy to see if the meeting time can be revised.

Maria Heredia reported that Workforce Alliance is working with BE& K Construction in the development of a Waste Treatment facility. They will be hiring 400 people in phase 1 of the project and they were very impressed that we could run a print out of 1000's of job seekers who already have construction experience and skills and who are unemployed/looking for work in Palm Beach County. She said that the contract they have requires a specific number of journeymen, but they will hire and train. The company is also interested in hiring people with non-traditional work history/backgrounds.

Jackie Halderman said that the mobile unit is now handled by the Community Relations and Public Affairs Department. All but one Saturday this month, the mobile unit has been scheduled to be in the community at events. Additionally, the unit is on a rotating schedule visiting county and municipal library locations. The mobile unit has also been scheduled for an event in West Palm Beach on August 15 as requested by County Commissioner/board member Priscilla Taylor.

- VII. NEXT MEETING – October 1, 2009