



Spokane Area WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

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MINUTES SPOKANE AREA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL Wednesday, May 14, 2008, 7:30 a.m. St Luke's Rehabilitation Institute

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Frankie Arteaga	Jeff Benesch	Peter Casimir	Steve Dahlstrom	Ron Dalla
Donna Dalzell	Craig Dias	Robert Duron	Tom Fritz	Steve Jurich
Kevin Managhan	Julie Meyer	Nancy Nelson	Mike Senske	Hugh Severs
Dixie Simmons	Lisa White			

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ben Cabildo	Polly Crowley	Kim Do	Rich Hadley	Bill Kalivas
Craig Lee	John Serben	Beth Thew	Diana Wilhite	

OTHERS PRESENT:

Susan Christenson-CVSD	Cami Hanson-WorkSource	Christi Harter-SPS CTE	Pat Knowles-West Valley Schools	Eric Loewe-SNEDA
Darrell Mihara-SFCC	Anne Millane-WS	Trina Miller-CCS	Mike Nepean-SPS	Scott Oakshott-Freeman School Dist
Mollie Patshkowski-WorkSource	Elise Wang-USDOL	Dana Durfee-USDOL		

STAFF PRESENT:

Mark Mattke-Workforce Strategy & Planning Director	Peg Waldron-Assistant Director Workforce Operations	Gordon Gutterud-Accountant	Dawn Karber-Youth Program & Development Manage	Anne Lockwood-Secretary	Lori Meakin-Workforce Development Program Specialist
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CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:

The meeting was called to order at 7:39 am. Introductions were made.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark Mattke took a moment to recognize the awards the WDC has received in PY07:

- November 2007 – *Governor's Best Practice Award* for Pizza, Pop & Power Tools event

- February 2008 – *Jim Chase “Asset Builder Adult Award for The Next Generation Zone*
- May 2008 – International Association of Workforce Professionals – *Best One-Stop in the State of Washington* award
- May 2008 – International Association of Workforce Professionals – *Best One-Stop in the Nation* award.

Mark expressed pride in the accomplishments of the WDC, WorkSource, and all community partners involved in our regional workforce development system. It has been a rewarding transition to the existing structure and the WDC recognizes Frankie Arteaga, Janet Bloom, George Iranon, Cami Hanson, and Anne Millane for their contributions as leaders to help implement the broad changes that have been made. Particular thanks go to all the staff from each partner agency for all of their hard work in bringing together diverse business practices and work cultures and meshing into a single team that serves a wide range of customers. Recognition as the Best One-Stop in the Nation is a great achievement. The competition included 1800 one-stop centers, 1400 affiliate sites, and 14 foreign countries. Chair Craig Dias stated that this award is a big deal and we should all be proud.

Steve Dahlstrom and Tom Fritz were recognized with a plaque for their contributions as past Chairs of the WDC. It is due to the leadership of this Council that Spokane’s workforce development system has been so successful and continues to lead the state and the country in innovative and effective programs and initiatives.

TAB #1 – REVIEW MARCH 12, 2008 MEETING MINUTES:

On a motion and a second to approve the March 12, 2008, WDC Meeting Minutes. Approved. None Opposed.

US DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Dana Durfee, Federal Project Officer and Elise Wang, Federal Project Officer, Office of Special Initiatives and Demonstrations from the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL), Region VI, San Francisco office have been in Spokane for several days and have met with WDC staff and toured the WorkSource Center.

DANA DURFEE

- Dana is responsible for WIA formula grants and oversees both Washington State and Idaho.
- One of Spokane’s assets is the One-Stop Center with an integration of agencies that are organized by function rather than agency. This consolidation of services helps everyone with the impact of reduced funds.
- USDOL will be conducting webinars to spread the word about how a successful One-Stop works and to hear what others One-Stops are doing. The system needs to identify resources that support successful service delivery.
- Elements of a transformed one-stop career Center include:
 - Integrated Strategies
 - Incumbent worker access to skill training and lifelong learning
 - Functional Organization – not by funding stream
 - Accountable
 - Youth, Older workers, disabled – other workers targeted
 - Cross-training for seamless services

- Assessment tools offered
 - All of these are present in the local one-stop model
- USDOL has facilitated the creation of Driving Transformation groups around the country. The State of Washington and the local Spokane area both have teams that participated in this forum last year. The local Driving Transformation team is putting together a One-Stop action plan and USDOL will be offering two years of technical assistance to assist teams. The State Transformational Forum Team is working on the next steps for the High Skills High Wages plan.
- The Workforce innovations Conference in July will be a forum for the Driving Transformation teams to learn more and receive technical assistance on change management, leadership forum, model replication, and alignment.

ELISE WANG

- Elise Wang reported on discretionary grant opportunities within USDOL. WIRED, RIG,
- High Growth Job Training, and Community-based Job Training grants have been available and Spokane has applied for each of these at different times. Spokane is partnering with education, economic development, private business, and others to develop proposals that respond to grant opportunities and serve our community.
- Dana reported that she will carry the message back to their office that Spokane is developing a system and portals to effectively serve different customers and that Spokane is able to leverage a variety of funds to better utilize all resources. The States need to realize funding has gone down and they are being asked to serve more with fewer funds. USDOL plans to learn from Spokane and help others create this functional alignment.
- When U.S. Department of Labor reports a return of discretionary funds to Congress it is viewed that WIA doesn't need the funds. Grantees are urged to spend all the funds from any discretionary grant sources from USDOL.
- The use of a waiver was discussed as a mechanism to allow use of some of the Dislocated Worker funds for the incumbent worker training with the idea that upskilling of current workers is of benefit. USDOL encourages waivers to the WIA. The WIA was written in 1998 and over a decade changes have occurred that require additional flexibility that wasn't conceived of when it was enacted.

ITEM #2 – UPDATE FROM SAPTAC

Mike Nepean, Chair of SAPTAC, reported that the State Board of Education (SBE) is charged with making policy to help create a meaningful diploma for Washington's high school graduates. To support this goal, the SBE has drafted a proposal called Core 24, which increases the number of credits required to graduate to 24 from the current level of 19. Every subject would have a credit requirement increase except fitness.

POTENTIAL IMPACTS

Students and School Districts are paid by the state for a 5 period day at this time. Core 24 would require that schools run a 6 period day for all 4 years and students will have to pass all classes. This would have the potential to impact the number of electives – including CTE – that students would be able to take.

Questions remain as to what level of math is required by graduating students to prepare them for careers or college. The third year of math should be meaningful for students to succeed in the workplace or post secondary education. Applied math may be more relevant than algebra II and also result in better comprehension and retention of the information.

The State Board of Education states that Core 24 would not move forward without the funding required to properly implement it and the current infrastructure of our public schools system is not funded at a level necessary for Core 24 to be successful.

The State Board of Education will be in Spokane on June 2nd and will hold a public meeting to disseminate information and take comments on the Core 24 proposal. SAPTAC asks that interested community members attend the meeting and participate in the development process.

WDC TACTICAL AND STRATEGIC PLANNING:

The WDC's preliminary budget report is out. The federal government is rescinding \$250 million out of WIA funds that have already been allocated. The WIA rescission has been a very lengthy process and the WDC is now at the point of receiving the final rescission figures from the state and creating a budget for the coming program year. The WDC held some funds in reserve in order to cushion some of the cuts in funding. The WDC will probably see another reduction in the amount of WIA funding in the next federal fiscal year.

Mark will be talking to the state tomorrow regarding dislocated worker mitigation funds that will be allocated to the local areas to help offset a portion of the cut. Once the state makes their decision, staff will develop a proposed budget for approval by the Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ITEM #3 - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

The Executive Committee met electronically concerning the PY08 budget and approving the annual PY08 meeting calendar.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Membership Committee met concerning an open position, resulting in the nomination of Hugh Severs whose position changed to Community Development.

On a motion and a second to approve Hugh Severs for the position of Community Development and submit Hugh's name to the mayor for approval to sit on the WDC. Approved. None opposed.

YOUTH COUNCIL

The Youth Council wants to thank Haskins Steel for their donation to the Spring Break Extravaganza at the Next Generation Zone for the youth in Spokane.

THE WDC YOUTH COUNCIL VISION STATEMENT

The Youth Council is furthering their efforts to position themselves in the community and guide their work by creating a vision and mission statement.

The WDC Youth Council Vision Statement: is:

Spokane area provides youth with the resources and opportunities to reach their potential and succeed in becoming valuable members of the community.

The WDC Youth Council Mission Statement is:

To create a comprehensive youth employment delivery system that supports the needs of business and industry by preparing young people for success in life and work.

YOUTH COUNCIL COMMITTEES

The Youth Council has two committees moving forward at this time. The Youth Focused Series Committee, which is sending out a survey to get input on services available in the area and what youth need; and the Internship Committee, which has sent out a survey regarding internship and employment opportunities for youth without college degrees.

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

The Youth Council has lost some board members and is looking for more board participation. In addition, it was suggested that an e-mail be sent to all WDC members and the individual Council members might then assign a person from their company to participate in the Youth Council. The Co-Chair position on the Youth Council is still vacant.

NORTHEAST COMMUNITY CENTER

Services are scheduled to begin in July at the Northeast Community Center. Community outreach will help determine the service strategy to put into operation.

PIZZA POP AND POWER TOOLS

Pizza Pop and Power Tools will take place on May 20 & 21 and is in its 4th year. The program started with 25 students and has grown to 407 students last year. The success of this project is the partnership that contributes time and energy into its planning and execution. Council members are encouraged to participate at the location on N. Fancher from 9:30-2:30.

NEW PROJECT AT HAVERMALE

As reported earlier this year, the WDC received a grant of \$100,000 through the Governor's 10% Discretionary funds. This project has Spokane Public Schools, Spokane Community College, Havermale High School, and industry partners working together to increase awareness of healthcare careers to students at Havermale. Students can take courses that will prepare them for college programs and/or employment.

Business partners include St Luke's, Inland Northwest Health Services, and Providence Health and Services who are providing part-time jobs and work experience. The Next Generation Zone is providing paid internships. This is an example of a great collaborative effort across our community.

BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

Mollie Patshkowski reported that the Business Solutions Team is working on a new business practice at WorkSource that targets the manufacturing cluster and helps to determine the skill and workforce needs of businesses that are growing and align training and programming to support meeting the needs. The Team is working to identify high wage/high demand occupations and provide information back to system partners for action.

The Business Solutions Team has started a pilot working with the WorkKeys assessment tool. WorkKeys assesses applied technology, applied math and teamwork and determines the level of these skills which can then be matched to employers' preferences for job candidates.

TAB #4 – OTHER BUSINESS:

- 1) WDC PY08 Calendar - If there are conflicts that arise with a meeting date please notify Mark via e-mail. The WDC may decide to meet at different venues in the coming year and if members have space that can fit the WDC please let us know. On a motion and a second to adopt the WDC PY08 Calendar. Approved. None opposed.
- 2) Rep. Timm Ormsby, several apprenticeship training coordinators, and Spokane Public Schools Career and Technical Education are hosting an event next Friday for 20 youth to tour several buildings and active projects, meeting people who help on the builds and the management of construction companies, and learn more about the careers in the construction industry. Lisa White will send the information to Anne to e-mail to pass on to WDC members. Please contact Lisa White if there is an interest in conducting a similar event for other business clusters.
- 3) The INWAC Aerospace Leadership meeting will be held at GSI at 2:00 pm. INWAC is hosting State Senators Lisa Brown and Chris Marr to thank them for their support during the last session. All are welcome to attend.
- 4) Doug Tweedy will be available at the June WDC meeting to talk about targeted industry clusters. Members have expressed a desire to be informed about the state of the regional economy to aid in making decisions about funding and program development.
- 5) One of the handouts is a list of conferences that may be of interest to WDC members. Individuals should contact Mark or Anne for more information or to make plans to attend.
- 6) Dixie Simmons announced that the Community Colleges of Spokane, Institute for Extended Learning is one of 5 colleges nationwide to be awarded a "50+" grant to provide career and employment services assistance to people over age 50. Joanne Murcar is lead on this project and will work with our system

ADJOURN:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:29 am.

NEXT MEETING:

The next WDC Meeting will be Wednesday, June 11, 2008, at the Spokane Skills Center.