

Westchester County Board of Legislators

ECONOMIC RECOVERY TASK FORCE

FINAL

MINUTES: of April 16, 2009

ECONOMIC RECOVERY TASK FORCE on Tuesday, April 16, 2009

MEMBERS: Chair: Tom Abinanti; Legislators: Peter Harckham, Ken Jenkins, Martin Rogowsky; joined by William Ryan

IN ATTENDANCE: **CEO:** Andrew Neuman **STAFF:** Louise T. Gantress, Chris Crane, Joanne Sold

Meeting called to order at 2:15 PM.

On the motion of Legislator Harckham, seconded by Legislator Rogowsky the minutes for March 31, 2009 were approved (unanimously).

Work Session Topics: To bring the members up to date and to discuss various ideas before the Task Force.

Discussion of off line meeting with the Office of Workforce Investment, Director Donovan Beckford and Marlene Furtick, Director of the Youth Bureau and CXX staff Andrew Neuman and Karen Pasquale: It appears that the outreach was as per the 2005 Plan and so went to the usual contractors and did not extend county-wide past those channels. An email was sent the afternoon of 4/16, when the deadline for RFP applications was 4/20. Legislator Abinanti's office sent a memo to mayors and other local officials to inform them of this opportunity earlier. The OWI director was invited to speak to the April 27 meeting joint with Community Services.

COPS Program: awaiting word on whether or not the County itself did apply.

WCC: Rather than hear the prepared presentation, perhaps relating to the Entergy/ConEd sponsored class, the Task Force invited representatives to attend the April 27 meeting to answer questions regarding "green" job training and certification.

Other topics of interest to the Task Force include (1) an energy investment fund and weatherization (2) as per NACo's recommendation, a coordinating person/office for energy police across department lines (3) situation of dislocated workers, and their training not tied to income requirements so notification should be county-wide (4) summer employment and how many adults are seeking these jobs (5) Task Force wants to see a plan of projects from the county executive (6) how "Buy American" can be a problem when little is manufactured here.

It was decided to hold the next meeting April 27th at 10 AM and to invite Director Beckford as well as representatives of the Community College.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 PM.