



Meeting Minutes
Department of Labor
13th Floor Auditorium
Trenton, NJ 08625
Tuesday, November 17, 2015

Attendance: **Hal Beder**-Acting Chair, **Barry Semple**-Co Chair, **Nancy Fisher**- Jewish Vocational Svcs., **Jean Baptiste**- Department of Corrections, **Alan Guenther**-Office of the Secretary of Higher Education, **Joanne Hala**- Northern United Way of NJ, **Nancy Fisher** – Jewish Family Services, **Bridget Satchel** Department of Human Services, **Mimi Lee**- New Jersey State Library, **Kirk Lew**- State Employment & Training Commission, **Larry Breeden**, New Jersey Department of Education **Julio Sabater**- Workforce Advantage USA, **Howard Miller**- New Jersey Department of Labor and & Workforce Development.

Welcome and Introduction – Chair report

The meeting was called to order by acting chair Hal Beder at 10:10 a.m. The members in attendance were asked to introduce themselves and the organizations they are each representing. The first order of business was a review of the meeting’s agenda and the goals for the meeting. The goals for the November 17th meeting were the following;

- Update on WIOA Planning
- Presentations to SETC – Policy recommendations and CCRS
- SCALES Next Steps

The first item on the agenda was the approval of October 16th SCALES meeting minutes. The first motion to accept the meeting minutes was given by Julio S. and the second motion was given by Howard Miller. The council was all in favor of accepting the meeting minutes, with no abstentions.

Update on WIOA Planning

Kirk updated the council on the current state of the Combined State Plan. The SETC has secured a consultant to draft the state plan, provide regional planning guidance to the three regional areas and technical assistance to both the state and local areas. Thomas P Miller and Associates (TMPA) has been awarded the contract to help draft the state plan. LWD and SETC will be hosting a two day event in the 13th floor



auditorium, which has the purpose of highlighting the 13 major policy implications that will be the focal points of the state plan. The stakeholders that attend the two day conference will have the opportunity to discuss the policies and provide additional feedback.

Presentations to the SETC – Updates

1. Policy Recommendations – The SETC accepted the 3 major policy recommendations proposed by SCALES, pending some changes to the document. The SETC felt that the policy could be strengthened by changing the language in six places from “may” to “shall”. The changes would make the document definitive, requiring the state and local areas to adhere to the changes proposed in the policy. Kirk will make the necessary changes to the document.
2. College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS) - The adoption of the college and career readiness standards were tabled based on recommendations made by Maria Barry from DOE office of career and technical education. New Jersey’s Common Core Standards are being reviewed by a taskforce to review the overall effectiveness and validity of the standards. The changes to the NJ Common Core Standards could have an impact on the CCRS standards for Adult Literacy Education in the state. This is not the case. The CCRS standards, which were adopted in 2013 are separate from Common Core Standards. They two standards do have some commonality between them, but they each are mutually exclusive. The CCRS standards are set as a foundation for adult literacy system and will not be altered, if any changes are made to the common core standards. The SCALES members had a 40 minute discussion about the topic. The council agreed that the policy should be redrafted and discussed during the January 6th meeting. The new policy will needed to be drafted in a manner that is clear and concise in articulating why the standards needed to be changed. At the January 6th meeting, the council will decide how to policy should be presented the SETC. Prior the meeting, the policy will be emailed to the SCALES members for approval.



SCALES Next Steps

The council decided to table this discussion to the next SCALES meeting. The discussion about the CCRS standards took up a large portion of the meeting. The council's next steps will consist of getting the CCRS policy improved and submitted for approval by the SETC. Some of the SCALES members will register for the two day policy conference on December 10th and 11th to ensure that the needs of the adult literacy system in New Jersey is embedded into the state plan.

Comment and Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:55 am. SCALES members were encouraged to register and attend the December 10th and 11th policy conference that will be held at the NJLWD Labor Building.

(a) – denotes action required

Next Meeting: January 6th, 2016

NJLWD Labor Building, 1 John Fitch Way, Trenton, NJ

Compliance with Open Meeting Requirements: In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act of 1978,