

**Union County Workforce Investment Board
Business & Industry Committee**

UCEDC, 75 Chestnut Street, Cranford, NJ 07016

Friday, November 8, 2013 at 9:30 AM

AGENDA

- | | | |
|------|--|----------------------------|
| I. | Welcome and Introductions | Erich Peter |
| II. | Role of the Business & Industry Committee | Antonio Rivera |
| III. | Discussion:
Labor Market Information | Antonio Rivera |
| III. | Discussion:
WIB Holiday Networking Reception for Businesses | Antonio Rivera |
| V. | Next Steps | Erich Peter |
| VI. | Next Committee Meeting | 9AM 1/17/2014 UCEDC |

Committee Members:

Erich Peter, Union County Economic Development Corp. (Co-chair)	Present
John Perry, Council for Airport Opportunities (Co-Chair)	Absent
Richard Capac, Leaf Group, LLC	Present
Gary Alessio, Print Tech	Present
James Brady, The Savor Group, LLC	Present
Jacques Howard, City of Plainfield, Dept. of Economic Development	Present
Anadir Liranzo, Omega Maintenance Corp.	Present
Kevin Lynott, AGL Resources, Elizabethtown Gas	Present
Gary Pfarr, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 102	Present
Pamela Capaci, Prevention Links	Absent
Stan Robinson, Jr., SHR Marketing	Present

Meeting Summary

1. This was the first meeting of the Business & Industry Committee in the program year 2012.
2. Committee member introductions were done so as to allow members to share information about their respective companies, services and expectations within the Business & Industry Committee.

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3. The role of the Business & Industry Committee was defined as having two objectives: (a) helping the public workforce system connect the gap between job seekers and employers and (b) designing strategies to market and recruit new private sector members to the WIB.
4. The role of the Business & Industry Committee shall evolve to meet the changes of the needs of the public workforce system, employers and job seekers.
5. Labor market data was reviewed by the committee, particularly along the seven key industries identified by the State Employment & Training Commission and the sectors' applicability to Union County residents.
6. Construction data was not as part of the analysis and was requested. The question as to whether or not the construction industry was growing was inconclusive at the time of the committee meeting. Furthermore, the seven sectors identified for growth captured subsequent to the real estate market crash of 2007.
7. The preliminary data reviewed is attached.
8. The NJ Economic Opportunity Act of 2013 was referenced as an opportunity of future growth in the construction and development in the urban centers of New Jersey. The question is what ancillary sectors of Union County's economy are going to see growth as a result of the Economic Opportunity Act?
9. The WIB needs to focus its efforts on ensuring that companies are getting the well-trained labor needed to meet the EMERGING aging out of the current labor force.
10. The committee determined it a priority to channel its energy to identify Union County's employment needs, based on both the data projections and what is happening in the real economy.
11. It is important for the WIB to conduct an asset inventory of the current economic incentives for employers to hire, particularly under the Economic Opportunity Act and others.
12. The will focus its efforts on helping one of the committee members, an employer, that is looking to hire 12 new employees but cannot find qualified individuals.

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13. There is a greater need for computer skills at the one stop are necessary as well a community outreach on the availability of those skills.
14. Coordinate with other agencies and municipalities to gather data that measures the pulse of the economy in Union County.
15. The WIB will put together a Holiday Business Reception on Wednesday, December 18, 2013 at the Red Knot in Cranford.
16. The WIB members shall act as WIB Ambassadors during the reception event.
17. The next meeting of the Business & Industry Committee shall be January 17, 2014 at 9AM.