

## PRIVATE INDUSTRY COUNCIL MINUTES

October 29, 1997

A regular meeting of the Private Industry Council was called to order by Chairman Maureen Buck at 7:10 PM, Wednesday, October 29, 1997 at The County Seat Restaurant, Canton, New York.

Members Present: Jack Backus, Doug Beachard, Lynn Blevins, Maureen Buck, Dick Callan, Sue Caswell, Greg Davis, Dick DeLaPorte, Dick Fishel, Steve Matzan, Doug McDonald, Ron McDougall, Jim McFaddin, Peter Phelan

Members Absent: Joanne Novak, Linda Randi, Nicole Scott, Bob Snider

Others Present: Edmund Russell, Raymond Fountain, Jim Connor, Steve House, John Manson, Connie Martin and Dave Williams of the Office of Economic Development; Tony LaGatta of NYSDOL.

### MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Motion was made by Mr. Phelan, seconded by Mr. Matzan, to approve the minutes of the September 24, 1997 meeting. Passed unanimously.

### CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Ms. Buck and Mr. Russell expressed disappointment that Mr. VanKennen was unable to attend the meeting. A special presentation had been planned to honor him for his many years of service as both Chairman and dedicated member of the Council. Mr. Russell stated that Mr. VanKennen had been instrumental in expanding the role of the Council in the mid-1980's when GM announced the closing of the Massena plant. During his tenure as Chairman of the PIC, Mr. VanKennen brought additional labor representatives onto the Council and devoted much of his personal time to work with the Massena community and GM in a successful effort to keep the plant in St. Lawrence County. Also during Mr. VanKennen's tenure as Chairman, the St. Lawrence County Private Industry Council received a Presidential Award from President Bush - one of only three in the country. Mr. Russell will see that Mr. VanKennen receives his gift - an engraved brass barometer.

Mr. Matzan was also given an engraved brass desk clock in recognition of his service as a dedicated member of the Council since 1998 and as Vice Chairman since 1989. Mr. Russell thanked Mr. Matzan for his assistance and willingness to give of his personal time to the Council. Mr. McFaddin also indicated that Mr. Matzan, as President of the UAW, had been very helpful during some very difficult times. Mr. Matzan thanked the Council members and the staff.

### STAFF REPORT

Training-related Costs: Mr. Russell distributed and reviewed a report prepared by Fiscal Manager, Mr. Short, in response to Ms. Novak's question regarding how much the SDA pays per year in day care costs. The report lists all training-related costs for the year including mileage, day care and auto insurance, registration and repair.

Workforce Development Board: Mr. Russell reported that the Services Committee of the Board of Legislators had unanimously approved the establishment of a Workforce Development Board. The matter will go before the full Board on Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Workforce Development System: Mr. Russell reported that he had just received the final draft report from the State's five Design Teams. He advised the Council members that he would prepare

an executive summary of the report and get it out to them in the next few weeks. Mr. McFaddin suggested that the Board of Legislators submit a support resolution to the NYSAC conference.

WA DISC Grant: Mr. Russell reported that the St. Lawrence County Service Delivery Area (SDA) received a grant to serve employees laid off from six firms: Newell, Appleton, True Stitch, Megan-Racine, Stella Cheese and \_\_\_\_\_ Manufacturing. The grant will be received in two one-year increments (now to June 30, 1998 and July 1 to June 30, 1999).

Orientation: Mr. Russell advised that an orientation for new Council members was scheduled for Thursday, November 6, 1997 at 4:00 p.m. in his office. All interested PIC members are invited to attend, and interested members of the Board of Legislators will also be invited

### OLD BUSINESS

Election of Officers: Mr. DeLaPorte gave a detailed and amusing report for the Nominating Committee (Mr. DeLaPorte, Mr. McFaddin and Ms. Buck) and placed the following slate of officers in nomination:

Chairman:	Lynn Blevins
Vice Chairman:	Ron McDougall
Secretary:	Sue Caswell

There being no nominations from the floor, Mr. McFaddin moved the proposed slate of officers, Mr. Fishel seconded and the slate of officers was unanimously approved and elected.

### NEW BUSINESS

Review of Private Industry Council Documents: Mr. Russell asked that the Council develop a committee to review the Council By-laws and the Agreement with the County. Mr. Phelan suggested that the Workforce Development Task Force, which has had previous discussions on these issues, could serve as that committee. Mr. Fountain indicated that he would also like to see the budget and participant reports revised so that they would be more meaningful to Council members. He asked that at its next meeting the Council establish a committee to develop a format for budget and participant reports which would tie dollars spent to participants.

Mr. Blevins, as Chairman of the Private Industry Council presented Ms. Buck with a gift in recognition of her service as Chairman of the Council. Mr. Russell expressed his appreciation for the support Ms. Buck has given the Council and the staff. Ms. Buck thanked everyone and stated and looked forward to continuing her work as a member of the Council.

### ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mr. Matzan, the meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue E. Caswell,  
Secretary