

**Public Hearings
Tri-County Workforce Investment Board
Local Area Plan
July 01, 2005 to June 30, 2007**

Public Comments: Dover-Foxcroft CareerCenter, Dover-Foxcroft, Maine May 31, 2005, 4 pm to 6 pm.

The public hearing was attended by three people: Judy Holt of Charleston and employed by Training and Development Corporation; Theresa Mudgett of Milo and employed by Training and Development Corporation and Ed Upham of Searsport and employed by the Maine Department of Labor.

Judy Holt – Training and Development Corporation

Stated she liked the Board's Mission Statement and strategic goals focusing on partnerships and working with businesses and incumbent workers while at the same time trying to move toward high growth high demand industries. Especially interested in knowing more about what we are doing in relation to working with businesses and bringing in new businesses that can employ people in these industries.

Depending on who we are working with, it is not always conducive for an individual to fit their training in the standard school year. In relation to our partnerships with colleges and adult education, programs should be developed that have flexibility to better meet the needs of the displaced, economically disadvantaged, and incumbent worker. One of the things we experienced at Great Northern was how flexible the system was to meet the demand. All partners have to be on the same page, interested in knowing more, and having a discussion later.

Workforce Readiness Certification really gets down to the basics and reinforces what employers have been telling us.

Recruiting youth has always been a challenge and she is really intrigued with the Youth Employment Network (YEN) and how it is going to work.

Agrees with the strategy of youth integrated case management, as she was one of the founders of the system – thinks system works very well.

Discussed OJT from a career path perspective, teaming OJT with secondary education and applying OJT hours to an apprenticeship.

Interested that the plan spoke about getting faith based organizations more involved. Would like more clarification of how the definition differs from a faith-based organization versus a community based organization. A discussion of each ensued.

Theresa Mudgett – Milo

In regards to the Youth Employment Network, likes the strategy of integrated case management.

Ed Upham – Maine Department of Labor, Bureau of Employment Services

The Business Visitation Program should be used as a resource for targeting industries.

Public Comments: Ellsworth CareerCenter, Ellsworth, Maine June 01, 2005, 4 pm to 6 pm.

The public hearing was attended by three people: Jack Frost of Ellsworth and employed by the Training and Development Corporation; Dick Collier of Cherryfield and employed by the Maine Department of Labor; and Ed Upham of Searsport and employed by the Maine Department of Labor.

Ed Upham – Maine Department of Labor, Bureau of Employment Services

The strategy for determining employer needs by holding small informal forums with businesses, is a good outreach strategy, and the Bureau of Employment Services will be looking forward to the findings of these meetings.

Public Comments: Eastern Maine Development Corporation, Bangor, Maine, June 02, 2005, 4 pm to 6 pm.

The public hearing was attended by three people: Garret Oswald of New Portland and employed by the Maine's Job Council, Maine Department of Labor; Dawn Mealey of Farmingdale and employed by the Maine Department of Labor; and Mary Fran Gamage of Harpswell and employed by the Maine Department of Labor.

MaryFran Gamage – Maine Department of Labor

Youth portion of the plan looks very well thought out and is headed in the right direction.