



**New Jersey State Employment and Training Commission  
Council on Gender Parity in Labor Education  
Meeting Minutes- March 27, 2014  
Rutgers University, New Brunswick  
Labor Education Center**

**NOTE:**

The Gender Parity Council meeting which is traditionally a two hour meeting, was only scheduled for one hour on this date, to allow for the NJ State Ethics Commission to provide training to the members.

**Welcome**

The Chair of the Gender Parity Council (GPC) opened the meeting at 10:08 a.m. This meeting allowed for a call in option for members unable to travel to the Rutgers location. The Chair asked each member participating in the meeting to introduce themselves.

**Membership Comments**

Immediately following the Chair's welcome, Henry Plotkin, member of the GPC indicated the December minutes had not been approved at the last meeting held on February 6<sup>th</sup>. Staff indicated there was not sufficient attendance at the February meeting to approve the minutes, a quorum did not exist. Mr. Plotkin then made a motion requesting the December minutes, included in the February 6<sup>th</sup> packets, be modified to reflect the historical presentation he made at the meeting, about the GPC.

The tone of the meeting shifted, and the next 50 minutes became a platform for some members to express their concerns and frustrations with outstanding issues pertaining to the council, and called into question the reasons behind what was described as "intentional delays."

While the dialogue involved various topics, the topics pertaining to the GPC included the status of membership, Standard Operating Procedures, and the budget. Mr. Plotkin inquired as to why voting results of the SOPs were not shared with the council, and why they were not informed of the outcomes pertaining to members seeking reappointment to the council. In addition, Mr. Plotkin questioned the status of the annual budget. Staff attempted to provide an update and explain the process with regard to membership, the SOPs, and budget, which was met with interruption, hostility, and disregard, along with additional demands that information be distributed to the council immediately. Staff indicated that an update on outstanding issues would be provided at the next GPC meeting in May.

In the remaining ten minutes of the meeting, the Chair provided the following brief updates to the members:

### **Science Summit**

The STEM Summit for 2014 is planned for June 27<sup>th</sup> to be held at Mercer County Community College. The GPC Science Subcommittee had a meeting on March 12<sup>th</sup> and a draft outline was developed but still requires the identification and confirmation of a keynote speaker and breakout session panelists. The outline was sent to GPC and Science Subcommittee members on March 18<sup>th</sup> and comments were due on March 26<sup>th</sup>. Staff indicated no feedback, from either group, had been received. The Chair requested a second e-mail be sent to both groups indicating a response was needed within two weeks.

The Chair updated the group saying that state funds will support the event but could not be utilized towards the cost of food. It would therefore be necessary to identify sponsors to support those costs. Staff indicated a maximum need of \$5,600. Virginia Treacy indicated the ability to contribute \$500 towards the cost of food for the event. A member requested a letter from the council outlining the “who, what and why” of the event to distribute to potential sponsors. The Chair responded it would be premature to create a document until the theme and keynote speaker were identified.

### **Pay Equity Event**

The Chair recapped the fact that a USDOL presentation was made in February on Pay Equity and it was still the intent of the Chair to support a pay equity event to meet the GPC law requirements.

### **Membership Update**

The criteria developed by the Ad Hoc Committee on Membership was being utilized to vet the candidates recommended to serve as members of the GPC and would also be utilized for those individuals seeking reappointment to the council. A meeting between the two appointing authorities, SETC and DOW was being planned to move forward with membership.

Henry Plotkin requested that potential members be reviewed by the Gender Parity Council, and then sent to the SETC and DOW for approval. Mr. Plotkin also requested an updated membership chart be provided to all members. Staff responded that an attempt to provide the document by May 1<sup>st</sup> would be made.

The Chair concluded the GPC meeting, and announced the next meeting was scheduled for May 1, 2014.

### **Ethics Training**

The New Jersey Ethics Commission Training Liaison was introduced and provided training to the group for the next 70 minutes.

**Attendance**Yes

Dawn Apgar  
Dianne Hartshorn  
Andrea Karsian  
Dianne Mills-McKay  
Maureen O'Brien-Murphy  
Sarah Pallone  
Henry Plotkin  
Sondra Sen  
Virginia Treacy

No

Christine Amalfe  
Michele Boronkas  
Terri Boyer  
Laurel Brennan  
Dianne Ciesla  
Neale Godfrey  
Glenda Gracia- Rivera

Called In

Marie Barry  
Jackie Sanchez-Perez  
Tiffany Smith