

Ramsey County Workforce Investment Board
Communication, Advocacy and Oversight Committee

Friday, March 12, 2004

Minutes¹

Members Present

Tom Macy, Chair
Kathy Engesser
Greg Lambert, Vice Chair
Gary Christensen
Paul Nelson
Teresa Tschida
Hyon Kim
William Lowe
Willie Nesbit

Members Absent

Jackie Mlynarczyk EA
Patricia Brady EA
Phil Saari EA

Staff/Guests Present

Kitty Gogins, WIB CEO
Kate Bates, WIB Staff
Terry Zurn, Workforce Solutions
Chris Stoehr, Minnesota WorkForce
Center

Call to Order

Tom Macy, Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:31 a.m.

Approve Minutes

Motion made by Greg Lambert with second by Paul Nelson to approve the November 14 minutes as written.

Motion Passed

Member Introductions

Due to the number of new members on this committee, all members introduced themselves and their organizations.

Update on Dislocated Worker and WIA Adult Outcome Reporting

The WIB had asked Workforce Solutions to report on the WIA Adult and Dislocated Worker programs twice a year. These reports have shown placement rates, health benefits, education level, supportive services, wage change from previous job when placed and a report from counselors on general trends. These reports are not an accurate representation of the program outcomes because information on a client is not available until a six-month follow up is complete. The state is testing a new system that would sort data differently, and allow for these reports to be easily produced, that may be available as early as this fall. At this time, only the State Dislocated Worker program could be done in a representative manner, as there is no follow-up required for this program. Information that could be communicated for all programs would be what supportive services they are using, what is their education when entering the program, and do they have health insurance at placement. Demographic information, such as age, ethnicity and zip code, is also available for those in the program.

The committee has agreed to see reports of the information that can be conveyed in real time, with a secondary report of lagged information. This report will be brought back to the CAO committee on May 14th and then go to the full WIB on June 3rd.

¹ This document is available in alternative formats upon request, please contact Admin@rcwib.org or call 651-265-2760.

Update from Oversight Subgroup

The WIB had expressed an interest to receive outcome reports from the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP). The goals for program completion change from quarter to quarter, making data only “point-in-time,” as opposed to comparative. The Oversight Committee proposes that MFIP report to the CAO committee, and the full WIB, as to where the program is currently, what is required of participants, and how the outcomes are measured. They then suggest a follow-up report that focuses on where MFIP is coming from, where they are going and how the WIB can help in their endeavors.

There was discussion on the expected influx of Hmong refugees from Thailand, and how the WIB can help their transition. An ad hoc was formed to discuss this issue and bring proposed action to the next CAO meeting. This ad hoc consists of Hyon Kim, who is chairing the group, Willie Nesbit and William Lowe. William Yang, president of the Hmong American Partnership, was suggested as an addition to the group.

Update from Recruitment Subgroup

The WIB has received enough quality applicants to fill the board to its 50-member capacity. Discussion was around the position of an applicant for a One-Stop Partner spot. The group agreed to appoint a person who is in charge of a program required on the board than someone who is in charge of the organization, but who may not know much about the particular required program.

Update from Marketing and Advocacy Subgroup**Annual Report**

The 2003 Annual Report is close to ready for distribution. The group agreed that this was a quality document, and only minor grammar/formatting suggestions were brought up. The distribution list for the Annual Report was reviewed, with the only additions being neighborhood business organizations.

DEED Legislation

DEED has put forward legislation to change the Dislocated Worker program to allow for more local control. Many groups that would be affected have been involved in the planning process, producing a bill that can be agreed upon by the community. The WIB sent out endorsement letters to all 26 Ramsey County legislators. WIB staff have created a letter, highlighting key points of benefit that business members can send to their senator and representative to advocate for the passage of this legislation. Already, several business members have sent out letters.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.

Next meeting will be on May 14th, 11:30-1:00 at the Midway WorkForce Center