

Ramsey County Workforce Investment Board
Education Committee Meeting
January 4, 2010

Present:

Scott Helland
Bill Lowe
David MacKenzie
Jane Nicholson
Dean Shawbold

Absent:

Craig Anderson EA
Deanne DeGraff EA

Staff/Guests:

Mary Jo Gardner, WIB Staff
Kate Raleigh, WIB Staff

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 3:39 p.m.

Approve November Minutes

Motion made by Dean Shawbold with second by David MacKenzie to approve the November Education Committee minutes as presented.

Motion carried.

Education Committee Membership

Mary Jo discussed the new requirement for Adult Basic Education representation on the WIB. Scott Helland, Metro East ABE Consortium, was appointed by the County to fill this position.

There was discussion on the Education Committee membership process for current WIB members. Education members agreed to allow current WIB members to serve without filling out the Education Committee application, as the members have a WIB application on file. Staff will incorporate this change into the Education Committee's Operating Rules and bring the updated document to the March meeting for review and approval.

Education Committee Work Plan

WIB staff developed a work plan for the Education Committee based on past discussions for members to react to. The following two goals were identified in the work plan draft, in addition to strategies associated with the goals:

- 1- Communicate to the WIB and the public on focus areas including career choices, education and training options and transferrable skills.
- 2- Advocate locally and regionally to ensure the state's education and training system remains effective and successful for job seekers and employers.

Discussions around the plan included the following:

- Add certificate programs, K-12, and Career and Technical Training to the list of education opportunities detailed in the plan.
- There is a need for communication and marketing around the opportunities available with training that is not the traditional "college" path of earning a Bachelor's Degree, particularly communicated to K-12 students and their parents.

Mary Jo requested that members send her any further feedback on the Education Committee work plan draft. Any input will be incorporated and the plan will be brought back to the committee in March. Additionally, Mary Jo will share the work plan draft with the Executive Committee for their feedback at their January 15th meeting.

Confirm Times

The Education Committee members agreed to meet on the first Monday of odd months from 3:30-5:00pm. Members requested the meeting move locations from Saint Paul College to the Maplewood/North Saint Paul area- WIB staff will check for space.

Other

Deanne DeGraff is planning a youth Career Day on February 26th and asked that WIB members be contacted as possible volunteers to discuss their career field with the students coming to the Career Day. Dean Shawbold is also involved in planning this event and shared that about 500 youth will attend the career day. Members agreed this would be appropriate for WIB members to hear about and Mary Jo will send an email out to all members.

The Metro WIB is hosting an event on Thursday, January 28th about accommodating working learners. Business leaders, workforce and education practitioners are invited to this lunch event. Mary Jo will send the information out.

Dave MacKenzie discussed the WIB's role in developing training programs for high growth industries and suggested that this committee would be a good partner in these projects. Mary Jo will keep this in mind as the newly merged Communication, Advocacy and Oversight/Workforce Committee meets and develops their work plan.

Mary Jo updated the committee on the FastTRAC grant applied for to support the healthcare initiative. This grant as received and the healthcare initiative is now fully funded. The program is going well with the first report due to the legislature in February. Mary Jo gave a brief outline of the program, focused on training Medical Billers and Coders. The class currently has 18 students expecting to finish the classroom work by June.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 4:19 p.m.

Next Meeting- March 1, 2010