

Ramsey County Workforce Investment Board
Market-Driven Workforce System Committee

October 9, 2003

Minutes

WIB Members Present

Ginny Sullivan, Chair
Jan Curtis
John Giovannini
Mary McKee
John Mohr
Robert Veilleux

Members Absent

Dick Anfang
Mary Brunkow EA
Phil Hanson EA
Kirk Hayes
Scott LeMire, Vice Chair EA
Kevin Locke
Lorrie Louder
Howard Orenstein
Ellen Watters
Tené Wells

Staff/Guests Present

Kitty Gogins, WIB CEO
Kyle Uphoff, DEED
Kate Bates, WIB Staff
Terry Zurn, Workforce
Solutions

Call to Order

Kitty Gogins was selected by WIB members present to preside over the meeting. She called the meeting to order at 1:15.

Approve Minutes

Motion made by Jan Curtis with second by Robert Veilleux to approve the minutes of August 14.

Motion passed

Discuss Implications and Next Steps on NEW Labor Market Insight

The Labor Market sub-group had a meeting last Friday, which was the culmination of six months of pulling together info on the labor market. A handout was given summarizing the discussion from the LM sub-group. This discussion focused around what industries to explore for workforce development, based on the demand side. The industries identified were Health Care, Education and Biosciences. The industries were chosen based on five criteria:

- It is a distinguishing and competitive industry, this means that the County employment level is above traditional in country- at least 2% above.
- It fits community and key stakeholder priorities; i.e. the City, the Chamber, the Port Authority, etc.
- It has above average wages.
- It hires from labor supply groups that are expected to grow.
- It addresses social needs e.g. education and healthcare.

The group agreed that Health Care is a viable industry to investigate, because there will always be a need for Health Care workers. Education has many potential retirees, but the money may not be there to replace them. Along these same lines, Biotechnology is a projection of what will be available in the future. There is also an issue with these latter two industries because of the amount of time it takes to train an employee. Questions were raised around the number of jobs that can be filled with an unskilled worker.

The group believes that Health Care should be our current focus. The next steps for this is to contact people who are knowledgeable about Health Care and hold a two hour panel discussion as well as dig deeper into labor statistics within the field. This will give the group information on questions like what individual occupations are growing, what are the expected shortages, what are the numbers, what are the skills required, what is the labor supply, what are some trends of the industry, current training available, whether current training meets the industry's needs, and what are the panelists projection of the job market in this industry.

Through our investigation of Health Care, we will pay special attention to where our supply could fit in. This includes among others immigrants, people with disabilities, unskilled workers, and Dislocated Workers. We will discuss this again at the meeting next month and come to a complete consensus about future steps to take.

Work Plans/Updates

This agenda item has been moved to November's meeting.

Approve Update to Strategic Plan

The Strategic Plan seemed very encompassing, and the group agreed to redefine the dates as a two-year plan.

Discuss Short Term Opportunities/Gaps

This agenda item has been moved to the November meeting.

Discuss Next Meeting Time

The group agreed to switch the meeting times from the even months to the odd months so that they are opposite the WIB meetings, allowing members more time. **This means the next meeting is November 13.**

Motion made by Ginny Sullivan, with second by John Mohr to meet opposite months of WIB.

Motion Passed**Adjourn**

Motion made by Robert Veilleux with second by Ginny Sullivan to adjourn the meeting.

Motion Passed

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Next Meeting- November 13, 1:00-2:30, Midway Hospital