

Ramsey County Workforce Investment Board

Advocacy and Public Policy Committee

Midtown Commons, 2324 University Avenue, St. Paul

December 17, 2001

Members Present

Marcia Fink, Chair
Shelly Franz
Jean Hammink
Kirk Hayes
Larry Litecky
John Mohr
Ellen Watters
Jan Wiessner

Members Absent

Dee Ann Christensen
Marre Jo Sager

Staff Present

Harriet Horwath
Kathy Korf

Call to Order

Marcia Fink, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m.

WIB Advocacy & Public Policy Committee 2002 Business Plan Summary

Members reviewed the Business Plan Summary for 2002 drafted by Jean Hammink based on input from Advocacy members at the December 6 WIB meeting. Discussion was held:

- A copy of the Minnesota Workforce Council Association 2002 Legislative Issues document was distributed; Jan Wiessner is a member of the Association
- Harriet Horwath briefly discussed the expected State budget shortfall for the Youth Program. Recommendation was made to add "Protection of the Current Youth Program Budget" to the Short-Term Committee Tactics
- Shelley Franz reported that she met with Becky Yanish of the Minnesota Department of Trade and Economic Development recently; the Transition Team supports bringing youth activities into the new department
- Harriet reported that current funding does not support some of the tactics identified in the strategic plan
- It was suggested that the Advocacy Committee needs to select 1-2 issues to focus on; the Committee may want to track all of the tactics, even if it does not take a position on all of them
- One of the recommendations coming out of the State Transition Team is for the State to encourage Workforce Service Areas to plan regionally through financial incentives
- Committee members rescheduled the regularly-scheduled meetings to the second Monday of the month from 2:30 to 4:00, beginning in February

- For the next 60 days, all Committee Tactics are “high impact”

ASSIGNMENTS FOR JANUARY 7 MEETING

- Ellen Watters and Marcia Fink - draft a one-page position paper on the Advocacy Committee’s legislative strategy and upon approval, forward it to the Executive Committee for review on January 18
- Marcia Fink - draft a sample legislative form for members to review
- Shelley Franz - develop generalized policy guidelines and filters based on the WIBs strategic goals for determining what policies are appropriate for the committee to get involved in
- Harriet Horwath - write brief descriptions of the policy issues
- Harriet Horwath - update the short-term committee tactics to include programs that are currently funded
- Harriet Horwath - forward information to Jean Hammink on the Youth Council’s strategic partners
- Jean Hammink – compile a list of the WIBs strategic partners

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Advocacy and Public Policy Committee is Monday, January 7 from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. at Midtown Commons, 2324 University Avenue.