

Ramsey County Workforce Investment Board

October 6, 2011

Minutes

WIB Members Present

Patricia Brady
Toni Carter
Mike Chanaka
Joe Crowe
Mary DesJarlais
Robert de la Vega
Kathy Engesser
Amy Filice
Trixie Golberg
Lee Helgen
Butch Howard
Doug Hubbard
Barb Jeanetta
Dennis Johnson
Tess Ketelsen
David MacKenzie
Tom McCarthy
Robert Morse
Paul Nelson
Mary Russell
Joe Stratig

Members Absent

Craig Anderson EA
Steve Carlson
Jacquelyn Carpenter
Scott Helland EA
Janet Ludden EA
Pamela Maldonado EA
Scott North EA
Dan Strittmater EA

Staff/Guests Present

Mary Jo Gardner, WIB
Karen Gray, GrayHall LLP
Nora Hall, GrayHall LLP
Talli Jordan, Workforce Solutions
Ramon Leon, Blue Ribbon Commission
Member
Jane Nicholson, Century College, WIB
Education Committee Member
Ann Olson, City of Saint Paul
Kate Raleigh, WIB
Mary Schmidt, DEED Job Service
Jessica Tkach-Paquin, Workforce Solutions
Susan Von Mosch, Office of Higher Education
Dr. Sheila Wright, Blue Ribbon Commission
Co-Chair
Terry Zurn, Workforce Solutions

Call to Order

Doug Hubbard, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:33 p.m.

Recognition and Announcements

- See Attachment I for Recognition and Announcements.

Chair Recognition

Commissioner Carter, Doug Hubbard and Mary Jo Gardner recognized Butch Howard for his work as Chair of the WIB.

Approve Consent Agenda

Approve Agenda

Approve August Minutes

Motion made by Mike Chanaka with second by Robert Morse to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Motion carried.

Accept Blue Ribbon Commission Report

Butch Howard gave background on the Blue Ribbon Commission and introduced his co-Chair, Dr. Sheila Wright. Nora Hall and Karen Gray, GrayHall LLP, were the facilitators for the Commission. They presented on the Blue Ribbon Commission's report, *Everybody In*, including the Commission's charge, the timeline (2011/2012-2015/2016), definition of the issue, and the ultimate goal to eliminate racial disparities by 20% each year through 2015/2016. The issue areas the Commission identified are: Policy, Outreach and Collaboration; Education and

Work Preparedness; and Racial, Ethnic and Cultural Businesses. There were strategies and action items associated with each issue area- the full report can be viewed on the Blue Ribbon Commission's webpage at www.rcwib.org. *Everybody In* calls for an implementation team to be formed to carry out the actions in the document and report back to the Blue Ribbon Commission annually.

WIB member discussion included:

- Are the goals established achievable?
- Companies that are doing a good job with employee/supplier diversity should share their strategies with other companies/employers.
- Was a root cause analysis done related to education and preparing the pipeline for available talent, e.g., failure rates in schools and the connection between educational and economic disparities?
- How does the returning veteran's unemployment rate compare with this population?
- Public awareness needs to be targeted at small businesses that do not have human resource staff.

Motion made by Butch Howard with second by Mike Chanaka to accept the Blue Ribbon Commission's report as presented and move it forward to the Ramsey County Commissioners and the Saint Paul City Council, requesting an action response from each body.

Motion carried.

The report will be presented to the Ramsey County Commissioners on Tuesday, October 11 and the Saint Paul City Council on October 12. There will also be a press conference on the morning of October 12.

Partnership Agreement

The current WIB/County Partnership Agreement expires at the end of December. The main point of discussion is the ongoing funding and sustainability of the WIB. WIB leadership has met with County leadership and discussed extending the agreement for six months, through June 2012, to allow time for these discussions. These discussions likely will include examining the value of the WIB and looking in to alternative operating structures.

Commissioner Carter shared, on behalf of the County Board, that she is extremely grateful that the WIB exists and stated that everyone is being challenged in long-term sustainability due to declining resources. She feels the six-month extension will allow for the development of a sustainability plan for the WIB.

Motion made by Kathy Engesser with second by Robert Morse to pursue a six-month extension on the current two-year WIB/County Partnership Agreement.

Motion carried.

Commissioner Carter requested volunteers to work on this.

Healthcare Initiative Update

The Healthcare Initiative partners began FastTRAC 3 and met with other FastTRAC programs across the state at the end of August to share ideas and best practices.

Other

None.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned upon completion of the agenda at 4:29pm.

Attachment I

Recognition and Announcements October 6, 2011

Recognition:

- Thank you to WIB members Butch Howard, Doug Hubbard, Janet Ludden, Paul Nelson, Mary Russell, and Scott North's appointee, Elizabeth Anderson, for their participation on the Blue Ribbon Commission.
- Thank you to Kathy Engesser for her leadership on the Blue Ribbon Commission's Communications Team.
- Thank you to WIB members Commissioner Carter, Robert de la Vega, Doug Hubbard and Tess Ketelsen who attended the Ramsey County Regional Round Table hosted by the Minneapolis Saint Paul Regional Economic Development Partnership. The event was held on September 15 at Ecolab.
- Thank you to Mary Russell for her presentation of the WIB's Healthcare Initiative at the MN Department of Employment and Economic Development FastTRAC 3 kick-off meeting on August 31.
- Thank you to Joe Stratig and Goodwill Easter Seals MN for hosting the August 4 WIB meeting.
- Thank you to Dave MacKenzie and the Hubert H. Humphrey Job Corps Center for hosting the September 22 Youth Council meeting.

Announcements:

- Governor Dayton's Job Summit will be held at the Crowne Plaza St. Paul Riverfront Hotel on October 25. The summit will focus on how to position Minnesota as a competitive leader in the global economy and how to build a strong future for our state. For more information and to register, please visit www.PositivelyMinnesota.com/summit.
- Career Day is a joint venture between Century College and NE Metro 916 Career and Technical Center and will take place on the Century College East Campus on February 26. Students, grades 9 through 11, from all local school districts are invited to participate in a day of career exploration. Professionals from various fields will be available for questions in a career fair area. Please contact Deanne DeGraff, 651-415-5610, if you would like to participate on the planning committee or the Career Day.
- The WIB is seeking an individual to serve as the Chair-Elect of the Youth Council. This position is open to all members but must be approved by the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners. Please contact Mary Jo for more information.
- The next WIB meeting is December 1, 2:30-4:30.