

Ramsey County Workforce Investment Board  
**Youth Council Meeting**

**July 28, 2005**

**Minutes<sup>1</sup>**

**Members Present**

Billy Collins  
Abe Hassan  
Dorothy Heidelberger  
Allen Hester  
Peter Jessen-Howard  
Doug Hubbard  
Sheldon Jensen  
Dale Maristuen  
Dean Shawbold  
Noke Sivoravong  
Jody Yungers  
Jan Webster

**Members Absent**

Traci Gauer EA  
Tim Lynch EA  
David MacKenzie EA  
Barb Reindl Pjevach EA  
Rick Polanski EA

**Staff/Guests Present**

Mary Jo Gardner, WIB CEO  
Kate Bates, WIB Staff  
Patricia Brady, WIB Member, Workforce Solutions  
Harriet Horwath, Workforce Solutions  
Dwayne Green, Workforce Solutions  
Musse Salah, Rehab Services

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**Call to Order**

Doug Hubbard, Chair, called session to order at 3:05 p.m.

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**Approve Minutes from June 23 Meeting**

There was discussion on the minutes based on the section regarding the HIRED contract. Al Hester suggested a revised version of this section that acknowledges there were different accounts of what occurred with the extra funds requested by HIRED. All agreed to accept Al's version, with the removal of a comment that the legislature was still in special session at the time of the 6/23 meeting, because this comment did not occur at the meeting, but was added later.

**Motion** made by Jody Yungers with second by Sheldon Jensen to approve the meeting minutes from June 23 as modified.

**Motion carried**

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**Discuss Vern Vick Award**

Long-time dedicated WIB and Youth Council member Vern Vick passed away recently. It was very important to the Youth Council that he be remembered in our organization, as he was a significant part of our history. The group discussed possible recognition ideas for Vern, focusing on an annual community service award in his name. The award could be bestowed upon individuals, organizations or youth. Other suggestions were a student scholarship or awarding an adult who worked with youth. It was stressed that if there were a scholarship for participants it would be important that everyone had a chance to receive it, and that the award process wasn't too competitive among participants. An ad hoc will meet to discuss the award. Volunteers were Harriet Horwath, Jody Yungers and Dean Shawbold.

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**Update on HIRED**

Two letters were recently sent to Jane Samargia, the Director of HIRED. The first was about the relationship between HIRED and Workforce Solutions and the second was about HIRED's participation at Youth Council meetings. There has been a lack of communication between HIRED and Workforce Solutions and this has caused a trust issue. The extra \$100K that has been previously discussed was spent by the end of May, leaving no funds for services in June, the final month of the contract. Doug Hubbard, Mary Jo Gardner and Patricia Brady are meeting with Ms. Samargia tomorrow to resolve all of these issues. There is concern

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<sup>1</sup> This document is available in alternate formats upon request

about HIRED's expenditures for next year and a 12 month budget, broken down into monthly expenditures, has been requested for the next program year. Ideally the meeting tomorrow will put to rest all of the trust and communication issues between the two organizations and we can begin to move forward with the important issues- services to youth.

As we move forward, HIRED is requested to communicate to Workforce Solutions, as opposed to having a seat at the table with Youth Council members. The WIB has instituted a policy where only members actively participate at the meetings, and staff and guests may speak when requested to, or during the open forum period at the end of each meeting. The Youth Council will look at the way service provider relationships are handled by the WIB and possibly use the same model. Also requested of HIRED will be monthly performance updates, including financials, that will most likely be discussed by the Oversight committee and distributed for review to the full Youth Council. A certain amount of time may be set aside at each meeting to briefly discuss the HIRED update, but a significant amount of time will not be used at the full council meetings. There was also discussion about the MYP funding and how that will be allocated. This will be discussed at the next meeting. All expressed the desire to resolve past issues and begin to build a positive and effective relationship with HIRED to serve youth in our community from here forward.

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### **Update Long Range Plan**

The group reviewed the four main components of the Long Range Plan (LRP). These components are: career preparation, education, experience and other. The group agreed to keep these components and requested to review the WIA outcomes for the youth programs. Over the next few meetings the group will use a process to update the LRP using everyone's ideas posted on note cards, grouped and prioritized accordingly. This process was suggested by Mary Jo and agreed to by all members.

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### **Other**

There was a group of 20 of Tanya Yarborough's YouthLEAD participants who volunteered at Rondo Days. The group worked all day and were very successful in their efforts. This project may lead to an established group of youth who are available for community events.

COMPAS ArtsWork 2005 is concluding with celebratory events displaying participants' work July 28-29.

The County sent a letter to the City requesting binding arbitration for resolution of the CDBG issue.

Dorothy Heidelberger announced that this would be her last meeting as she has accepted a new position with Saint Paul Public Schools. Her guest, Musse Salah from Rehab Services, may be interested in taking her place on the board. Dorothy was thanked for her service.

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### **Open Forum**

None.

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### **Adjourn**

**Motion** made by Dean Shawbold with second by Peter Jessen-Howard to adjourn the meeting at 4:29 pm.

**Motion carried**

**Next Meeting:** August 25, North Saint Paul WorkForce Center