

Ramsey County Workforce Investment Board
Youth Council Meeting

April 26, 2007

Members Present

Billy Collins
Andrew Freeberg
Kirk Hayes
Doug Hubbard
Dale Maristuen
Rick Polanski
Dean Shawbold

Members Absent

Abe Hassan EA
Courtney Henry
Peter Jessen-Howard EA
Peg Killen
David MacKenzie
Jody Yungers EA

Staff/Guests Present

Mary Jo Gardner, WIB Staff
Kate Bates, WIB Staff
Lee Helgen, WIB Member
Allan Ige, Workforce Solutions
Terry Zurn, Workforce Solutions

Call to Order

Kirk Hayes called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m.

Terry Zurn has an item for the agenda under “Other”- he has a map showing where our youth clients come from throughout Ramsey County.

Approve Minutes

Motion made by Dean Shawbold with second by Sheldon Jensen to approve the March 8th and 22nd minutes as presented.

Motion carried.

Update on Building Lives

There is not an update at this time.

Resource Mapping

Rick Polanski gave an update on the resource mapping initiative. He and Jody Yungers met with Shawna McDonald from the PACER Center and Jane Spain from the Department of Education, among other stakeholders. Three options were presented for the Youth Council’s involvement in Project C3’s resource mapping. They are:

- Youth Council members ensure their organizations are in Project C3
- Youth Council members contact organizations in Ramsey County and encourage them to add their organization to the system, and further contact organizations to update their listings
- Utilize the Pine School model and pay youth to update the listings with work experience funding

It is unclear what the costs would be for the last option, but presumably some start-up funding to begin the project and an annual cost to keep it running. From these options, the group discussed many aspects of the resource mapping priority that the subcommittee will need to discuss. This included: the value or United Way’s 211 Program (211 and PACER have stated that it is not practical at this time to combine mapping efforts); the targeted audience for the Youth Council’s mapping efforts (youth, parents, and/or counselors); whether PACER’s project goes beyond specializing in youth with disabilities (it is their intention to broaden their focus, and they have begun doing so); if Ramsey County would be represented on the C3 website without the Youth Council’s involvement (most likely it would); whether or not this was desirable work experience for youth; if there is a connect with the Mayor’s Second Shift initiative. The subcommittee addressing this will come back to the group with an update at our next meeting.

Other

Terry Zurn presented a map, created by Ramsey County Public Works, showing where the youth enrolled in the program for the last 12 months came from, based on their address. All agreed that the geographic areas represented align closely with the perceived areas of need in the City. All thanked Terry for his work on this. Terry also informed the group that the WIA allocation for youth this year is \$52k less than the county had last year. MYP is still in conference committee, though being considered for considerably less than requested-

staff can send the names of relevant legislators to council members. Building Lives is also being considered, again for considerably less than requested.

Bonnie Elsey, the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), was at the Executive Committee meeting Friday, April 20, to discuss workforce service area (WSA) re-designation. In their unified plan this year, DEED put in that they will be examining the 16 current WSAs and having local meetings with stakeholders to see how each local area feels their WSA is working. There have been no decisions made at this time.

Work Plan Strategy

The Youth Council was divided into work groups based on the three goals found in their Long Range Plan. These goals are: To promote personal and career development for youth (will focus on resource mapping); to promote education and training needed for workforce success; to promote work based learning to support successful transition into the workforce and independence. The Youth Council will meet bi-monthly as a large group, with the committees meeting during the opposite months. The room at the Ramsey County WorkForce Center- Saint Paul has been reserved every month during the regular meeting time, and members are welcome to meet as a smaller group at that location, or to select an alternate time or location. Members are requested to inform Youth Council staff of their meeting time so others may attend if interested. Terry Zurn, Dwayne Green and Allan Ige will each serve as staff on one committee. Jody Yungers, Andrew Freeberg and Doug Hubbard were asked to convene the first meeting of groups 1, 2 and 3 respectively. An update will be requested at each full Youth Council meeting.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m. upon completion of the agenda.

Next Meeting: June 28, Ramsey County- WorkForce Center Saint Paul