

Ramsey County Workforce Investment Board
Youth Council Meeting

October 22, 2009

Members Present

Billy Collins
Peter Jessen-Howard
David MacKenzie
Dale Maristuen
Gwen Peterson
Rick Polanski
Dean Shawbold
Jody Yungers

Members Absent

Abe Hassan
Doug Hubbard
Sheldon Jensen
Becky Johnson EA
Kathy Kittel

Staff/Guests Present

Julie Baker, Workforce Solutions
Norm Champ, Tree Trust
Tim Gust, Northwest Youth and Family Services
Lynnette Landry, Guadalupe Alternative Program
Cristina McCoy, Saint Paul YWCA
Carli Stark, WIB Staff
Angelica Torralba-Olague, Youth Program
Facilitator for School District 622
Terry Zurn, Workforce Solutions

Call to Order

Dave MacKenzie called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m.

Approve Minutes

Motion made by Dean Shawbold with second by Billy Collins to approve the September minutes as presented.

Motion carried.

Approve Youth Council Applicant

Gwen Peterson, Youth Job Corps Program Manager for the City of Saint Paul Parks and Recreation, applied for membership on the Youth Council.

Motion made by Dale Maristuen with second by Billy Collins to approve Gwen Peterson's application to the Youth Council.

Motion carried.

Summer Youth Employment Provider Reports

Terry Zurn, Workforce Solutions (WS), presented information about Summer Youth programs. Since April, WS has served 587 youth with help from the ARRA funds. The ARRA funds for the summer were for use between May 1 and September 30. The year round funds can be used until June 2010.

Summer Youth Employment services were carried out through vendors, which include Youth Job Corps, Guadalupe Alternative Programs, YWCA Saint Paul, Tree Trust, Northwest Youth and Family Services, and School District 622. Providers gave presentations on their summer programs, which involved on the job experiences for youth, as well as classroom learning experiences that supplemented the work experiences.

Final PY '08 WIA Performance

Terry Zurn reported on the WIA Performance Outcomes for Program Year 2008. Workforce Solutions received \$24,000 for reaching their performance measures this year, and will have higher measures to reach for 2010.

Council members discussed the DEED performance measure related to credentialing. The numbers are low because of participants that obtained jobs without receiving any training credentials.

Next year is the last year of contracts; Workforce Solutions will be putting out RFPs for vendors.

WIA Re-Authorization: Moving age up to 24

The idea of raising the WIA Youth age requirement from 21 to 24 was presented. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act dollars included 22-24 year olds and Workforce Solutions staff advocates the expansion of services.

The Youth Council agrees that the age expansion would be beneficial because of the lack of services available to the older youth population. Concerns about funding in relation to the extra program participants were expressed. A recommendation will be made once more information has been received.

Youth Council Response to WIB Strategic Plan

The discussion about the WIB Strategic Plan will be held at the November meeting.

Adjourn

Motion made by Dean Shawbold with second by Rick Polanski to adjourn the meeting at 5:04 p.m.

Motion carried.