

**General Membership Meeting**  
**Thursday, June 2, 2022, 2:30-4:00pm**  
**Minnesota Humanities Center – The Commons**

**WIB Members Present**

Tom Aasheim  
Shym Cook  
Karen Gerdin  
Jennifer Germain  
Lisa Guetzkow  
Susan Jambor  
Chad Kulas  
Pamela Maldonado  
Gaye Adams Massey  
James McClean  
Jim McDonough  
Yolanda McIntosh  
Sean Mullan  
Donald Mullin  
Paul Nikstad  
Sheila Olson  
Koami Pedado  
Mary Rick  
Sheri Reimers  
Trish Stevens  
Julie Thiel  
Ramona Wilson  
Tracy Wilson

**Members Absent**

Robert Blake  
Becky Degendorfer-EA  
Chris Duffy-EA  
Hyon Kim-EA  
Tony Lusiba-EA  
Camila Mercado Michelli-EA  
Elisa Rasmussen-EA  
Chris Tolbert-EA  
Tanya Velishek

**Staff/Guests Present**

Shaina Abraham, City of Saint Paul-Right Track  
Ling Becker, Workforce Solutions  
Emily Geray, Mentor MN Team  
Mary Sue Hanson, Suburban Ramsey Family Collaborative  
Scott Herold, High School of Recording Arts  
Mariann Macalus, Workforce Solutions  
Marc Majors, DEED  
Becky Milbrandt, Workforce Solutions  
Jenny Moore, White Bear Lake Area High School  
Rachael Molenaar, Workforce Solutions  
John O'Phelan, Workforce Solutions  
Mary Russell, Workforce Innovation Board  
Melody Santana-Marty, Ramsey County Finance  
Peg Thomas, Sundance Family Foundation  
Liz Williams, Greater Twin Cities United Way  
Ron Wirtz, Federal Reserve Bank

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**Call to Order & Announcements**

Chair Chad Kulas called the meeting to order at 2:39pm and read the following announcements:

- Welcome to the return of in person meetings of the Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County. We especially welcome our partners and guests joining us today.
- Welcome new Member Pamela Maldonado. Pamela is the Director of Financial Opportunities Programs at Community Action Partnership of Ramsey & Washington Counties. In just a few minutes, Pamela will have a chance to come up and introduce herself.
- On behalf of the WIB and staff, I want to extend a sincere thank you and best wishes to Bob Blake, Chris Duffy and Sheila Olson who are not seeking reappointment for another term on the WIB. All of them have made tremendous contributions to the community and this board.
- The future of work is online. Our work to create an inclusive economy in Ramsey County and Saint Paul hinges on digital equity and broadband access that will be the gateway to future jobs and opportunity. That's why the WIB and Ramsey County, in partnership with Saint Paul Public Libraries, is leading **Connectivity Blueprint**. This summer, community members and leaders across the county are being asked to share their perspectives and experiences with digital equity. **We are opening up the Tech Committee meeting on Thursday, July 14 at 1:00 pm to the whole WIB and others to engage on this topic.** All WIB members should have received the meeting invite. Adding your voice to the conversation about how we give everyone in Ramsey County access to the technology and skills needed to fully participate in an equitable future and an inclusive economy is critical.
- WIB members and guests are invited to attend any committee meetings. All agendas and minutes are available on the WIB's webpage. All committee meetings are being conducted via video conference. Instructions to participate are included in the meeting invites and are also posted on the WIB's webpage.

- Article 8 of the WIB’s Bylaws state that “...members shall not cast a vote on any matter regarding the provision of services by the member or by an entity that the member represents or on any matter that would provide direct or indirect financial benefit to such member or the immediate family of such member”. If you believe you have a conflict on any items on today’s agenda, please abstain from discussion and voting.
- The next WIB meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 11. The time has shifted to 11:30am-1pm for a special recognition lunch celebrating the completion of the Inclusive Workplaces Cohort. Thank you to the Equity Committee for leading this cohort. We hope you can all join us on August 11 to learn about the experience and talk with the cohort participants. You should have all received an invitation with details. If you plan to attend, please register through Eventbrite. The link was sent via email and in the calendar invite. This meeting will be in-person at the Humanities Center.

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### **Land Acknowledgement**

McIntosh read the land acknowledgement.

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### **Approve Consent Agenda**

*June Meeting Agenda*

*April Meeting Minutes*

*WIB Financial Report*

**Motion (Wilson/Stevens) to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

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### **New Member Introduction**

*Pamela Maldonado, Community Action Partnership:* Maldonado introduced herself and gave a brief overview of her job responsibilities as the Director of Community Engagement, Community Action Partnership of Ramsey and Washington Counties.

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### **Update from DEED Deputy Director**

Kulas introduced Majors who then gave an update on the legislative session, focusing on the workforce related issues. A lot is being asked of the legislature, especially around the record low unemployment, high job vacancies and employment barriers. Majors will be able to provide more concrete information next time on the tasks being achieved.

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### **Federal Reserve Survey Results**

Kulas introduced Wirtz who then gave an update on current business conditions across the six-state Federal Reserve area. The overall theme was that job seekers face difficulties in seeking employment and there is a need to better understand the worker outside the workplace to facilitate a person’s ability to engaged in work.

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### **Vern Vick Memorial Award**

Nikstad introduced the 2022 Vern Vick Award winners – Scott Herold (High School for Recordings Arts), Jenny Moore (White Bear Lake Area High School) and Peg Thomas (Sundance Family Foundation). He thanked them for the impact they have had on local youth and presented them with a plaque. The nominators shared about the great work the recipients have done.

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### **Other**

No further items were discussed.

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### **Adjourn**

Upon conclusion of the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm.

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Next meeting: Thursday, August 11, 2022, 2:30-4pm – Minnesota Humanities Center, 987 Ivy Ave. E., St. Paul