

**General Membership Meeting**  
**Thursday, October 6, 2022, 2:30pm - 4:00pm**  
**Minnesota Humanities Center – The Commons**

**WIB Members Present**

Tom Aasheim  
Shym Cook  
Becky Degendorfer  
Karen Gerdin  
Jennifer Germain  
Lisa Guetzkow  
Susan Jambor  
Hyon Kim  
Chad Kulas  
Tony Lusiba  
Gaye Adams Massey  
James McClean  
Camila Mercado Michelli  
Sean Mullan  
Paul Nikstad  
Koami Pedado  
John Perlich  
Mary Rick  
Trish Stevens  
Tanya Velishek  
Tracy Wilson

**Members Absent**

Pamela Maldonado-EA  
Jim McDonough-EA  
Yolanda McIntosh  
Don Mullin  
Elisa Rasmussen-EA  
Sheri Riemers-EA  
Julie Thiel-EA  
Chris Tolbert  
Ramona Wilson

**Staff/Guests Present**

Shaina Abraham, Right Track  
Michelle Belitz, Workforce Solutions  
Drew Hamilton, Saint Paul College  
Mindy Handberg, Mounds View Schools  
Kristen Hoyles – Goodwill Easter Seals  
Mariann Macalus, Workforce Solutions  
Bradley Mahr, Workforce Solutions  
Becky Milbrandt, Workforce Solutions  
Rachael Molenaar, Workforce Solutions  
Tom O’Neill, DEED  
John O’Phelan, Workforce Solutions  
Letesia Ramirez, Right Track  
Edwin Rosas, Hired-Minnesota Trades Academy  
Mary Russell, Workforce Innovation Board  
Nardos Tesfalidet, Right Track  
YouthBuild Participants

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**Call to Order & Announcements**

Chair Chad Kulas called the meeting to order at 2:32pm and read the following announcements:

- Welcome to the Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County meeting. We especially welcome our partners and guests joining us today.
- October is Manufacturing Month across the state of Minnesota. Recognizing the importance of this industry was the main theme in this month’s WIB newsletter. I would encourage you to visit the Manufacturing Month page on the Ramsey County website where you will find some great industry reports and resources as well as a list of events taking place throughout the month. We will also be hearing from a panel of manufacturing industry experts later in today’s meeting.
- According to the WIB’s Bylaws, the Executive Committee has the authority to “take action on items which need timely action before the next regularly scheduled WIB meeting.” County staff and the WIB’s Executive Committee have done a thorough review of the Open Meeting Law and WIB Bylaws and have determined that when meeting virtually, the Executive Committee will not make any approvals on behalf of the WIB. If the Executive Committee is needed to make any approvals on behalf of the WIB, a special in-person meeting of the Executive Committee will be called. All WIB members will be notified of the special meeting and will have the opportunity to attend.
- Workforce Solutions was recently notified that there will be a monitoring visit by the Department of Labor the week of October 24. DOL will monitor the WIOA Adult, Dislocated Worker and Wagner Peyser programs during their visit. This was discussed at the WIB’s Policy & Oversight and Executive Committee meetings last month. If there are any questions, please contact Ling.
- You should have all received an email last week that included details about the Career Connect Day being put on by the St. Paul Area Chamber on October 18 at the St. Paul RiverCentre. The WIB is supporting this event as a table sponsor and as the transportation sponsor to ensure that every 10<sup>th</sup> grader in Ramsey County has the opportunity to attend. We are also seeking support from WIB members to join county staff at the event. Please email Becky if you are able to take a 2-hour shift

staffing the WIB's table. This is a great opportunity to talk to the young people who attend about the WIB and local workforce needs.

- 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, December 1 from 2:30-4pm. This meeting will be held in the Hall of Nations Room at International Institute. International Institute is located at 1694 Como Ave in Saint Paul – right across from the State Fairgrounds.

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### **Land Acknowledgement**

Aasheim read the land acknowledgement.

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### **New Member Introduction**

Perlich introduced himself and gave a brief overview of his responsibilities as the Director of Public Affairs at the St. Paul Area Chamber.

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### **Approve Consent Agenda**

*October Meeting Agenda, June and August Meeting Minutes, WIB Financial Report – July and August*  
**Motion (Aasheim/Degendorfer) to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously**

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### **Summer of Impact: Youth Program Highlights**

Molenaar and Mahr provided an overview of the Youth Adult Employment program. This program provides employment and training opportunities to low-income and/or at-risk young adults. Services provided by vendors include career planning, job search assistance, paid work experience and assistance with tuition costs. The following youth program providers shared about their summer programs. Young people in the program shared about the life changing experience these programs are having on their lives.

*Goodwill Easter Seals-Youthbuild:* Hoyles provided an overview of the programs they offer.

*Right Track:* Abraham provided an overview of the programs they offer.

*Hired-Minnesota Trades Academy:* Rosas provided an overview of their experience.

*Urban Boatbuilders:* Maher provided an overview of Urban Boatbuilders, as a representative was not present.

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### **Manufacturing Month**

*Labor Market Information:* O'Neill provided an update on local manufacturing labor market information.

*Manufacturing Industry Panel Discussion:* Guetzkow moderated the discussion with panelists Handberg, Mullan and Hamilton. Discussion topics included how their organizations invested in supported manufacturing career pathways, how their organizations are partnering with employers to support a manufacturing workforce and what challenges are their organizations experiencing in meeting their talent needs.

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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 3:54pm.

Next meeting: Th., December 1, 2022, 2:30-4pm – International Institute of MN, 1694 Como Ave. St. Paul