

Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County
Constructions-Green Jobs Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 8, 2022
2:00-3:00 PM

Present:

Joseph Adamji
Robert Blake
Becky Brink Ray
Chris Duffrin
Muneer Karcher-Ramos
Donald Mullin
Jodi Pincus
Elisa Rasmussen
Russ Stark

Absent:

Staff/Guests:

Ling Becker, Workforce Solutions
Mariann Macalus, Workforce Solutions
Rebecca Milbrandt, Workforce Solutions
John O'Phelan, Workforce Solutions

Call to Order & Land Acknowledgement

Chair Mullin called the meeting to order at 2:02pm and read the land acknowledgement aloud.

Approve February Minutes

Motion (Rasmussen/Stark) to approve the February 8, 2022, minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously by chat vote.

ARPA Funding

Becker shared the ARPA funding background and asked for help in formulating the next steps for the initiatives for this committee. She also shared that the county board voted on workforce initiatives at today's board meeting. These efforts are being led by Workforce Solutions in partnership with the City of St. Paul. ARPA investments will be used to fund various workforce programs. This Committee focused on the earn and learn model which will allow individuals to gain skills while earning an income. The group discussed what this model should look like with the idea of investing in the infrastructure of people. It is important to establish what the end result would be and letting community-based organizations design the program(s) so there is buy-in from everyone. The committee talked about what the jobs could be, the age group and ongoing support for those involved as they develop their skills, and keeping those individuals engaged in establishing a career over time. There was agreement that a young adult should be part of the planning discussions.

Committee Work Plan/Project Updates

Due to time constraints, the following updates will be provided by email:

- Women In Construction Week: March 6-12, 2022
- Discussion of Action Work Areas:
 - Future of Work – Green Jobs Resources
 - Worker Retention Efforts

Director Updates

Due to time constraints, the following update will be provided by email

- Good Jobs Challenges
- Rework America Alliance Opportunity: Virtual Roundtable scheduled for March 17, 2022.

Other

Becker and Brink Ray shared about Goodwill Easter Seals' information session on a project being offered to metro area employers that want to pivot their hiring from four-year degree-based to more skilled-based hiring. They are willing to pay employers for the cohort learning experience. The session is scheduled for next Thursday at 2:00pm. Details about the project can be shared with everyone's network as there is interest in the construction industry.

Adjourn

Upon completion of the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00pm.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 12, 2022, 2-3pm