

**Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County**

Equity Committee Meeting Minutes  
Monday, September 19, 2022, 3-4 PM

**Present:**

Mohamed Mourssi-Alfash  
Michelle Belitz  
Shym Cook  
Becky Degendorfer  
Lauren Hunter  
Karin McCabe  
Aalayha Robb  
Tanya Velishek  
Tracy Wilson

**Absent:**

Yolanda McIntosh  
Mary Russell-EA  
Ramona Wilson

**Staff/Guests:**

Ling Becker, Workforce Solutions  
Mariann Macalus, Workforce Solutions  
Becky Milbrandt, Workforce Solutions  
Erin Olson, RealTime Talent

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**Call to Order & Land Acknowledgement**

In the absence of a chair, Becker called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm. Degendorfer read the land acknowledgement aloud.

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**Approve August Minutes**

**Motion (Degendorfer/Wilson) to approve the August 15, 2022, minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously by chat vote.**

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**Committee Chair**

Becker stated there is still a need for a Committee Chair. Anyone interested in filling this role should contact her.

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**Committee Work Plan/Project Updates**

*Inclusive Workplaces:* Becker thanked those on the subcommittee for the extra planning sessions. She then provided some background on the cohort and indicated there are funds to do another one next year with CEI. She explained that the subcommittee reviewed the survey results and recommendations for the next cohort. Milbrandt provided a summary of the end of the cohort survey results, indicating most responses were positive, with some constructive feedback. Becker provided recommendations for the next cohort based on the survey results. The next step is to reclarify the scope with CEI based on those recommendations. All agreed to move forward with the next steps. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

*Untapped Talent Event: Disparities Data Overview from RealTime Talent:* Becker indicated the initial plan was to do a series of virtual events to dive deeper into the workforce disparities of specific populations within Ramsey County. She provided an update and suggested a pause while a larger, broader event in the first quarter of next year is considered. This is due to the importance of data de-aggregation. Olson presented the framework in designing an event based on learning, partnership and empowerment. The data components included grouping conversations by themes and working within those themes. Becker indicated the original focus of the events was by racial groups rather than themes. She asked for feedback from the committee about this shift to themes. There was agreement. Becker will work with Olson to co-design the event.

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**Director's Updates**

Becker provided the following:

*Inclusive Employer Champions:* This is a new partnership with area chambers of commerce and economic development organizations. This effort is designed to bring collaboration and resource sharing of workforce services and programming to the business community and to support inclusive workplaces. A kick-off meeting was held September 14.

*Welcome Home Party:* This community-led event was very successful and included a robust job fair sponsored by the WIB. A couple folks received job offers at the event. It is hoped that the event will be repeated and grow even more.

*Recruitment Resources Fair:* This event will be held October 5, at the Roseville Skating Center. It is a new way for businesses to connect with local community-based training providers as a way to connect with their pipeline of students as a new pipeline of employees.

*Workforce Development Month:* Becker thanked the committee for their service to the WIB and for keeping the work moving along.

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**Other**

No other topics were discussed.

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**Adjourn**

Upon completion of the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 3:59pm.

Next Meeting: October 17, 2022, 3-4pm