

**Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County  
Partnership & Outreach Committee Meeting Minutes**

March 8, 2022, 3:00-4:00pm

Via Zoom Video Conference

**Committee Members Present**

Chris Duffy  
Susan Jambor  
Trish Stevens  
Julie Thiel

**Members Absent**

**Staff/Guests Present**

Ling Becker, Ramsey County  
Mariann Macalus, Ramsey County  
Becky Milbrandt, Ramsey County

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**Call to Order & Land Acknowledgement**

Duffy called the meeting to order at 3:06pm and Jambor read the land acknowledgement aloud.

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**Approve January Minutes**

**Motion (Stevens/Jambor) to approve the January 11, 2022, meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously by chat vote.**

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**Action Planning Update**

Becker reviewed the Committee's action plan. Discussion focused on the needed support for ongoing industry future events and job fairs.

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**Committee Work Plan/Project Update**

*2021 Annual Report:* Milbrandt provided an update, indicating the report will move to the Ramsey County Open Data Portal. The graphics will support this year's theme of Building Connections. The public launch will be mid-April. She'll continue to update this committee in the coming weeks. Any further feedback is welcomed. The Joint Powers Agreement infers that Workforce Solutions will do a yearly report.

*Untapped Event Series:* Becker shared the focus of this series which is being led by the Equity Committee. Discussion was had as to how this Committee could partner with the Equity Committee on their plans to host one event per month during the summer months. Becker is looking for feedback on event naming (more on a positive side), virtual vs. in person (hybrid doesn't work), how to market it (newsletters, social media, etc.) and to whom (employers). She is also seeking recommendations from this committee from a communications partnership outreach perspective that then can be shared with the Equity Committee. Discussion was had on possibly hosting an inclusive employer award which could be the capstone at the end of the series. The WIB has money to fund these events. Becker will write a funding request. Duffy expressed support for these events and for having each committee member take ownership in supporting one event. Jambor and Stevens will look at their calendars for June and August. Thiel was interested in September and Duffy will support the capstone in October.

*Employer Engagement Events – ongoing:* Becker stated that these are similar events that this committee will support.

*Job Fairs:* Becker stated that these are more job seeker events and will ask Kulas about having these more under the WIB's umbrella rather than a specific committee.

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**Director Update**

*ARPA Funding:* Becker shared the framework as to how these funds are being dispersed/leveraged and the co-investment opportunities. The County Board approved the workforce initiatives which are being led by Workforce Solutions in partnership with the City of St. Paul and will focusing on the increasing economic disparities.

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*Hospitality Job Fairs:* Becker gave an update on the ongoing partnerships with the St. Paul Chamber of Commerce and various other entities in supporting the hospitality industry, including the Seven Days of Hospitality in late April. Becker shared the on-line platform from last year.

*Afghan Refugees:* Becker stated that there are a lot of moving parts in helping the refugees get settled. The City of Minneapolis is serving as an intermediary to support a coordinator to connect the efforts of the seven agencies. The language barrier is the most difficult.

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**Other**

No other items were discussed.

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**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:53pm.

**Next meeting:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022, 3-4pm