

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

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

3:00-4:00pm

Zoom Video Conference

Committee Members Present

Susan Jambor
Chad Kulas
Pamela Maldonado
Trish Stevens

Members Absent

Staff/Guests Present

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

Call to Order & Land Acknowledgement

Chair Jambor called the meeting to order at 3:02pm and read the land acknowledgement aloud.

Approve September Minutes

Motion (Kulas/Stevens) to approve the September 12, 2023 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously by chat vote.

2024 Committee Meeting Schedule

Jambor shared the proposed 2024 meeting schedule. The meetings will continue to be the 2nd Tuesday of odd-numbered months but will shift to 2-3pm. Anyone with concerns with this change should contact Milbrandt. She will send the meeting invites after this meeting.

Committee Work Plan/Project Updates

Inclusive Employer Toolkit: Becker stated that this was launched a few weeks ago. It aims to help employers provide a more welcoming and inclusive workplace for all by offering practices to build diversity and inclusion in the areas of employee recruitment, hiring, onboarding and retention. It is available online on the Ramsey County Means Business website and can also be downloaded. If there are resources to add or additional comments, let Becker or Milbrandt know so the on-line version can be updated right away. The downloadable version will be updated quarterly. Further discussion centered around opportunities for distribution and sharing with partners and stakeholders. Suggestions included sharing it with the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) and other HR networks as well as other cities.

Inclusive Workplaces Cohort: Information about the next cohort was shared by Becker. This committee was asked to give input on where/how to share the opportunity when it becomes live. Suggestions included the Small Business Administration (Brian) Amplio (Jonathan Sage-Martinson) and Twin Cities Metro CDC (Pete Ingebrand). Any other suggestions should be sent to Milbrandt.

WIB Annual Report: Milbrandt provided a brief update stating the idea is to reduce the report while providing an overview of successes and data/outcomes. There is more information on programs, etc., on the County's Open Data Portal which serves as an ongoing annual report. Milbrandt is working with the County's Communications department on the report and will involve this committee as things move forward.

Director Update

Becker provided the following updates:

Inclusive Hiring Connections Summit: This event is on January 24 and is a half day opportunity for HR professionals to connect with inclusive hiring resources and community-based training providers. All WIB members are asked to help in a variety of ways such as being a greeter, hosting a breakout room or moderating a panel. Becker also mentioned an event on January 17 which is a webinar on the top trends to watch in Ramsey County's Workforce landscape. It will be led by Erin Olson from RealTime Talent.

Inclusive Employer Champions Update: Meetings with Champions groups (which are all local chambers of commerce and economic development organizations) have been held to lay out their 2024 work plans. These contractual relationships are designed to enhance and complement the work of the WIB by sharing information about the workforce services and programming to employers while also connecting job seekers and supporting inclusive workplaces. The 2023 champion members have been invited to the December WIB meeting.

Build Your Own Future: This campaign intends to elevate the construction-green jobs industry. Work is being done on a webpage on Ramsey County Means Business to share all the pathways and training opportunities through unions, CBOs and community colleges. Added to the webpage will be a calendar of construction-related events in the community. Becker is exploring hosting a screening event for the Skilled documentary in partnership with 3M. Another possible offering is an Introduction to Construction Career Pathways 101 that John O’Phelan could facilitate. Also, being explored is more community outreach, e.g., kiosks restroom ads, and digital marketing. A suggestion for next meeting is to invite organizations’ social media staff to provide ideas on outreach strategies. Jambor will follow up with Spire’s media specialist (Brian).

Action Plan Update and 2024 Work Plan

Becker provided a recap on the great work done by this committee but stated that one strategy will be shelved - the Healthcare Career Pathway Community Event. Items that will carry forward to next year’s work plan are the alignment with the construction work, outreach and supporting the Inclusive Champion business connections.

Other

Everyone was encouraged to attend the WIB luncheon meeting on December 7.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:39pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 2-3:00p via Zoom