

**Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County
Youth Committee Meeting**

Thursday, January 19, 2023, 3:00-4:00 PM

Members Present

Tom Aasheim
Jennifer Germain
Mary Sue Hansen
Hyon Kim
Paul Nikstad

Members Absent

Breanna Galuska
Karen Gerdin
Gaye Adams Massey
Sheri Riemers

Staff/Guests Present

Ling Becker, Workforce Solutions
Charie Gill, Workforce Solutions
Mariann Macalus, Workforce Solutions
Brad Mahr, Workforce Solutions
Rachael Molenaar, Workforce Solutions
Peg Thomas, Sundance Family Foundation

Call to Order & Land Acknowledgement

Chair Nikstad called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm. Nikstad read the land acknowledgement aloud.

Approval November Minutes

Motion (Hansen/Aasheim) to approve the November 17, 2022, Youth Committee meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried by chat vote.

Conflict of Interest Statement

Nikstad reminded everyone that WIB and Committee members are asked to read and sign the Acknowledgement each year and shared the full Policy with the Committee. There were problems with completing the form. Mahr will check into this so the form can be signed and submitted in the next week.

2023-24 Unified Local Youth Plan

Mahr provided an update to the Youth Plan for 2023-2024. The plan was drafted along the same lines as last year and has been submitted for approval. Mahr explained the few edits but no changes to the programming structure. A few new programs are being introduced noted below.

2023 Vick Memorial Award

Nikstad reviewed the process of the Vern Vick Award, including criteria, application and timeline. Nominations are now open through March 9, with the ceremony to be held at the WIB meeting on June 1. Research will be done as to why this award was established to honor the memory of Vern Vick. Further conversation to be had about carrying on the legacy and guiding principles of this Award. An alteration to the language of establishment regarding COVID-19 will be made and referring to youth as youth and young adults.

Youth Workforce Development Legislative Outreach

Becker provided an update on the legislative priorities around funding and the Minnesota Youth Program (MYP).

Youth Works! Updates:

Youth Works! Newsletter and Orientation: Becker shared her appreciation to Hansen and Thomas on their work on Youth Works! and the passion they exhibit on helping the youth and young adults. Becker shared a draft model which will help to define what Youth Works! is. Evolving list includes enrolled employment and training programs; special projects and partnership coordination. Further conversation needed to ensure building a more coordinated impact model and young people might touch a few of these things. Supervisory training and Youth Works! orientation is a priority. Gill and Mahr will be hosting monthly training sessions starting in March for anyone who is interested in knowing about YouthWorks!

ARPA Update

Molenaar provided an update on the Learn & Earn RFP and the timelines of the next steps to have contracts by April 1, with services provided by the end of April/first part of May. Looking to have manufacturing as an additional industry.

Becker shared information on a new project with our Court system called Power Within Us for young people on probation.

Becker shared information on another project called Build Your Own Future, working together to set up for large scale events.

Becker shared information on the Public Sector Academy in our own county, in partnership with Parks and Recreation, Property Management and Public Works and Emergency Communications Center. Taking applications for the second cohort starting in late February that will include four City of Saint Paul departments.

In-Person Committee Meeting

Becker shared that other Committees are holding an in-person luncheon to connect with each other. She thought this committee might be interested in doing something similar at one of the already scheduled meetings, just shifting meeting time around lunch. There was interest in having an in person. Nikstad will propose one meeting date at the Jobs Corp.

Committee Member Updates and Other Business

Hansen shared the Financial Health and Wealth Creation Resource Fair scheduled for February 7 at 6:00p.

Adjourn

Upon completion of the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 4:03pm.

Next Meeting: March 16, 2023, 3:00-4:00pm via Zoom