

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

March 22, 2018

2:30 – 4:00pm

Workforce Service Center
2266 2nd Street North, No. St. Paul, MN 55109

Members Present

Karen Gerdin
Jennifer Germain
Brian Goodspeed
Kathy Kittel
Karin McCabe
Paul Nikstad

Members Absent

Tom Aasheim-EA
Larry Gilbertson
Robert Morse
Jane Nicholson
Joy Nyabwari
Tim O'Brien

Staff/Guests Present

Becky Milbrandt, WIB Staff
CJ Stanton, Workforce Solutions
Elizabeth Tolzmann, Ramsey County

Call to Order

McCabe called the meeting to order at 2:32 pm. All those in attendance introduced themselves.

Approve January Youth Committee Minutes

Motion (Nikstad/Germain) to approve the January 25, 2018 Youth Committee minutes as presented.

Motion carried.

2018 Vern Vick Award

McCabe stated that three nominations were received during the nomination period. The applications were reviewed and the merits of each nominee were discussed. It was noted that each nominee is distinct in their area of expertise which led to a discussion about whether more than one person could be selected. There was agreement that all three nominees are excellent candidates and those not selected this year should be encouraged to reapply in the future.

Motion (McCabe/Kittel) to recommend Jan West as the recipient of the 2018 Vern Vick Memorial Award.

Motion carried.

PY 18 Unified Local Youth Plan

An executive summary of the Plan was reviewed. Stanton explained that this is an update year, not a full rewrite year. All the input sent to Stanton from Youth Committee members was incorporated into the Plan. There was brief discussion about the construction partnership with Central High School. Stanton will check into the current level of partnership with that program and provide an update at a future meeting.

Motion (Nikstad/Gerdin) to recommend approval of the PY 2018 Unified Local Youth Plan as presented.

Motion carried.

Updates

Outreach to Schools Program: Stanton reported that the interns at LEAP and Creative Arts have been in place for a few months and are working well. There has been turnover at Humboldt and Como but new interns have been hired and will start after spring break. Because of the timing and shorter work period, these new interns will focus primarily on career preparation. Stanton is also planning to ramp up the monthly intern meetings to get them oriented to the job more quickly.

Summer Youth Employment Program: Stanton stated that applications are due April 15. So far, the volume of applicants is on track with last year. Stanton reported that there are many new and returning employers. There is participation from all of the sectors but he is still looking for some additional manufacturing sites. Goodspeed suggested contacting Ace Auto Parts as a potential employer site. Other suggestions should be sent to Stanton. Tolzmann expressed support for integrating youth internship programs across agencies rather than each having its own. Stanton will be meeting with the Right Track program manager to discuss ways to integrate the City and County programs.

Workforce Solutions (WFS) Update: Tolzmann provided an overview of her work on the WFS assessment. Themes from the assessment will be shared with the Executive Committee tomorrow and discussed with the full

WIB in April. Tolzmann explained that interviews are underway for the new director. The first round of interviews is complete with five candidates moving into the second round next week. It is expected that the new director will be in place in May. McCabe reported that Bridgett Backman took a position with Anoka County. Her job opening has been posted and will be filled soon.

Youth Committee Meetings

After some discussion, it was decided that the Youth Committee will not have a May meeting to allow new WFS leadership to get established and for current staff to focus on their program work. Nikstad offered to host the July 26 meeting at Job Corps. Students will be invited to share information about the programs.

Motion (McCabe/Nikstad) to cancel the May Youth Committee meeting. Motion carried.

Other

McCabe shared information about Science Museum's Year of the Engineer. The Museum's Kitty Andersen Youth Science Center (KAYSC) offers STEM education programs for all grade levels and internship opportunities for older youth. McCabe encouraged WFS staff and Youth Committee members to connect with this program. KAYSC programs are addressing the achievement gap by engaging groups under-represented in STEM, such as females and youth of color. Milbrandt will send the program details to committee members. McCabe indicated that the Museum is willing to come to a future meeting to present on the program.

Upon completion of the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 3:32 pm.

Next Meeting: July 26, 2018 at Hubert Humphrey Job Corps