

**General Membership Meeting
Studio 4 Live Room @ High School for Recording Arts
1166 University Avenue W, St. Paul, MN 55104
Thursday, April 4, 2024 - 2:30pm to 4:00pm**

WIB Members Present

Tom Aasheim
Jonathan Banks
Becky Degendorfer
Jennifer Germain
Susan Jambor
Cheniqua Johnson
Katie Kapaun
Pamela Maldonado
James McClean
Yolanda McIntosh
Rena Moran
Koami Pedado
Donna Rapacz
Elisa Rasmussen
Lauren Reynolds
Sheri Riemers
Trish Stevens
Aalayha Traub

Members Absent

Hanna Getachew-Kreusser-EA
Lisa Guetzkow-EA
Hyon Kim-EA
Chad Kulas-EA
Tony Lusiba-EA
Camila Mercado Michelli
Don Mullin-EA
John Perlich-EA
Mary Rick
Tanya Velishek
Carly Voshell-EA
Tracy Wilson-EA

Staff/Guests Present

Ling Becker, Workforce Solutions
Hannah Chan, Saint Paul Public Schools
LaShay DeClercq-Ransom, Elpis Enterprises
Breanna Galuska, St. Paul Public Schools
Sara Garbe, CareerForce Saint Paul
Charie Gill, Workforce Solutions
Caroline Karanja, Hack the Gap
Scott Herold, HSRA
Mariann Macalus, Workforce Solutions
Brad Mahr, Workforce Solutions
Becky Milbrandt, Workforce Solutions
Rachael Molenaar, Workforce Solutions
John O'Phelan, Workforce Solutions
Mary Russell, Executive Committee
Tony Simmons, HSRA
Ginny Nayman-Tonn, HHH Jobs Corp. Center
Matt Varilek, DEED
Longkee Vang, Workforce Solutions

* Tours of High School for Recordings Arts were offered to all attendees right before the meeting at 2pm or following the meeting at 4pm

Call to Order, Announcements and Land Acknowledgement

Chair Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 2:34 pm.

- Welcome to the Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County meeting. We especially welcome our partners and guests joining us today.
- Thank you to High School for Recording Arts (HSRA) staff and students for hosting the meeting and for providing tours of the school and studio. Scott Herold will come up and share some information about the school in just a couple minutes.
- WIB members and guests are invited to attend any committee meetings. All agendas and minutes are available on the WIB's webpage. All committee meetings are being conducted via video conference. Instructions to participate are included in the meeting invites and are also posted on the WIB's webpage.
- Article 8 of the WIB's Bylaws state that "...members shall not cast a vote on any matter regarding the provision of services by the member or by an entity that the member represents or on any matter that would provide direct or indirect financial benefit to such member or the immediate family of such member". If you believe you have a conflict on any items on today's agenda, please abstain from discussion and voting.
- I hope you can all make it to the next WIB meeting on Thursday, June 6, from 2:30-4pm in the 1st Floor Conference Center at the Plato Building.

Rasmussen read the land acknowledgement aloud.

Welcome to High School for Recording Arts (HSRA)

Herold welcomed everyone to the school and shared the mission of HSRA is to provide youth the opportunity to achieve a high school diploma through the exploration and operation of the music business

and other created endeavors. It is a public charter high school, which pioneered the concept of connecting with at-risk students through a hip-hop music program, with no tuition fees.

Approve Consent Agenda

April Meeting Agenda

February Meeting Minutes

WIB Financial Report

WIB Executive Committee At-Large Member Appointment – Johnson

One-Stop Operator Request for Quotes

2023 WIB-Workforce Solutions Annual Report

Motion (Aasheim/Stevens) to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Germain and Johnson abstained from voting.

WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker Vendor Request for Proposals

Becker provided an update on the vendor Request for Proposals for both WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker services. The current vendor contracts will expire on June 30, 2024 and contract with the new vendors will begin July 1. This will come back to the WIB in June for approval of the vendors. The current vendors, who have been utilized in the last five years, are HIRED, Goodwill Easter Seals and YWCA Saint Paul.

2024-2027 A Local and Regional Plans

Becker provided an overview of the Plan, the steps taken to get to this point and highlighted the key themes:

- Multi-faceted labor market data with increased focus on equity.
- Deepening focus on alignment, coordination and partnership.
- Optimizing service delivery and operations post pandemic.
- Investing in the Future – a more inclusive workforce and more inclusive employers.

The Plan was published for the required 30-day public comment period along with the Regional Plan. Once approved by the WIB, the Local and Regional Plans will be sent to the Ramsey County Board for final approval. The Plans are due to the Governor’s Workforce Development Board by the end of May. Becker thanked everyone for their help to write and give input on the Local Plan.

Motion (Moran/McIntosh) to recommend to the County Board the approval of the Local and Regional Plans. Should DEED ask for minor changes, the Executive Director has authority to make the needed edits. Motion carried unanimous by voice vote.

WIB Bylaws Amendments

Because 2/3 of all voting members were not present at today’s meeting, no vote was taken on the proposed Bylaws amendments.

Youth Champions Awards Presentations

It was shared that the Vern Vick Award has been renamed the Youth Workforce Champion Awards. Traub shared that this award is given each year to highlight standout members of the Youth Works! Community who dedicate themselves to working with and improving the lives of Ramsey County’s young people, ages 14-24, to develop the next generation’s full potential. Hannah Chan of Saint Paul Public Schools is the recipient of the Legacy Award, and LaShay DeClercq-Ransom of Elpis Enterprises is the recipient of the Rising Star Award. The individuals who nominated Chan and DeClercq-Ransom shared their reasons for the nominations.

Comments from the DEED Commissioner

Commissioner Varilek thanked Becker for all her work on the federal funding workforce planning initiatives; congratulated the Youth Champion Award winners and thanked everyone on the approval of the Local Plan. He provided an economic snapshot stating there is significant strength in our economy and shared two developments that illustrate the partnership between DEED and WIB: (1) the relocation of the Saint Paul CareerForce location, and (2) the Drive for Five program, a new grant initiative to grow Minnesota’s workforce

for technology, the trade, caring professions, manufacturing and education jobs. Following his presentation, Varilek answered questions from the audience.

Other and Award Recipients' Photo

Following the meeting, a cake reception was held in celebration of the Youth Workforce Champion Award recipients.

Adjourn

Upon conclusion of the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 3:50pm.

Next meeting: Thursday, June 6, 2024, 2:30pm-4pm – Plato Conference Center, 90 W. Plato Blvd., St. Paul