

General Membership Meeting
Thursday, December 5, 2024 – 11:30am-1pm
Minnesota Humanities Center, 987 Ivy Ave E., Saint Paul, MN 55106

WIB Members Present

Tom Aasheim
Ismail Ali
Ama Asantewaa
Jonathan Banks
Tami Cybulski
Sara Garbe
Jennifer Germain
Hanna Getachew-Kreusser
Lisa Guetzkow
Pai Her
Katie Kapaun
Chad Kulas
Tony Lusiba
Pamela Maldonado
James McClean
Yolanda McIntosh
Koami Pedado
Donna Rapacz
Elisa Rasmussen
Mary Rick
Trish Stevens
Tanya Velishek
Carly Voshell
Tracy Wilson

Members Absent

Becky Degendorfer-EA
Fidelity Goodlaxson-EA
Cheniqua Johnson-EA
Bryan Kuzel-EA
Don Mullin
Rena Moran-EA
Koami Pedado
John (JP) Perlich-EA
Lauren Reynolds-EA
Sheri Riemers-EA
Aalayha Traub-EA

Staff/Guests Present

Hanika Alemayehu, Flannery Construction
Michelle Belitz, Workforce Solutions
Cate Duin, Ramsey County
Jamey Flannery, Flannery Construction
Victoria Hill, Gillette Children's
Ruby Hogen-Chin, Ampact
Kim Horton, Friends of the Sant Paul Library
Elizabeth Hunter, Opportunity Community Svcs.
Cliff Kallemeyn, Community Partner
Dana Krueger, St. Paul Port Authority
Dan Lehn, Cadenza Music
Adrien Logsdon, Cadenza Music
Mariann Macalus, Workforce Solutions
Brad Mahr, Workforce Solutions
Becky Milbrandt, Workforce Solutions
Scott Mims, Cadenza Music
Abdi Mohamad, IT Metrohub
John O'Phelan, Workforce Solutions
Alyscia Raines, ADR Consulting
Mary Russell, Member-At-Large
Shelby Selvy, Gillette Children's
Laxmi Shastry, ADR Consulting
Renee Smith, White Bear Center for the Arts
Commissioner Mai Chong Xiong, Ramsey County
Moua Xiong

Call to Order and Lunch

Chair Rasmussen call the meeting to order at 11:50am. She asked for a moment of silence to honor UnitedHealth Group CEO, Brian Thompson, who was killed yesterday in New York. She encouraged WIB members to keep Lauren Reynolds, Chair of the WIB's Equity Committee and UnitedHealth Group employee, in their thoughts.

Announcements and Land Acknowledgement

Chair Rasmussen read the following announcement:

- Welcome and thank you for attending today's Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County meeting. This is a very special meeting to celebrate the completion of the Inclusive Workplaces Cohort and the individuals who have dedicated yearly a year to being.
- Welcome new members Ismail Ali and Fidelity Goodlaxson. In just a few minutes, I will invite them to stand and introduce themselves.
- Susan Jambor is retiring from Blaze Credit Union at the end of this month. She has been a true champion for workforce throughout her career and a valued member of the WIB for nearly 5 years. She was not able to attend today's meeting but we will send her some cards thanking and congratulating her on an amazing career. Please see Becky to sign the cards.
- A reminder that WIB members and guests are invited to attend any of the WIB's committee meetings. The meeting schedules, agendas, and Zoom links are available 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.

- Pending approval of the 2025 meeting schedule on today’s agenda, the next WIB meeting will be on Thursday, February 6, 2:30-4pm at the Plato Conference Center in Saint Paul. I hope to see you there!

Rapacz read the land acknowledgement aloud.

New Member Introductions: Ali, Goodlaxson

Ali introduced himself and gave a brief overview of his job as Director of Talent Initiatives at the Minnesota Technology Association. Goodlaxson, Interim Director of Financial Opportunity at Community Action Partnership of Ramsey and Washington Counties (CAPRW) was not present.

Approve Consent Agenda

December Meeting Agenda

October Meeting Minutes

*WIB Financial Report**

*2024 Proposed WIB Budget**

2025 WIB Meeting Schedule

Motion (Aasheim/Stevens) to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Inclusive Workplaces Cohort Recognition

McIntosh provided a brief overview of the Inclusive Workplaces Cohort, an executive learning cohort to support employers in becoming more inclusive workplaces as a tool for economic growth. She thanked Ramsey County Workforce Solutions and the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners for supporting this work. Commissioner Xiong shared about why this is important to the county and how the cohort program supports the county’s priorities.

Cohort Reflections:

- Russell provided a recap and reflections on the cohort experiences as she has been part of them since inception.
- McIntosh recognized ADR Consulting for leading the 2024 cohort.
- Alyscia and Shastry shared some of ADR Consulting’s insights about the cohort experience.
- Liz Hunter and Kim Horton provided a recap and reflections of their experiences being part of the cohort.

Recognition Presentations: Rasmussen, Commissioner Xiong and Russell presented each organization with a plaque in recognition of their commitment and dedication to being an inclusive workplace.

Other

No further items discussed.

Adjourn

Upon conclusion of the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 12:36pm.

Next meeting: Thursday, February 6, 2025 2:30-4pm – Plato Conference Center, 90 W. Plato Blvd., Saint Paul