

Workforce Development - Jan. 16th 2008

PRESENT: Bobbie Kleffman, Paula Frings, John Peterson, Mary Kosak, Megan Christiansen, Sarah Copeland, Jason Merritt, Gwen Grell, Jessica Larson, Toni Wilcox, Brad McKay, Matt Grose, Jim Woehrle, Lisa Randall, Marla Beaty, Dan Adams, Jim Smokrovich

STAFF: Kerry Larsen & Bud Stone

Megan Christiansen called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

JAN 2008 MINUTES:

Megan Christiansen asked for a motion to approve the Jan. 2008 minutes; Bobbie Kleffman made a motion to approve the Jan. 2008 minutes; Lisa Randall seconded; motion carried.

Action: No further action is needed at this time

CUSTOMER SERVICE AWARDS:

The committee members decided upon two gold star winners for the months of March 2008 and April 2008.

ACTION: Bobbie Kleffman made a motion to approve the March & April 2008 gold star winners; Mary Kosak seconded; motion carried. Kerry will call these award winners and make sure they are at the luncheons.

UPDATES ON WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT:

- Project Read: Toni Wilcox talked with committee and gave an update on Project Read. Toni explained what the project is and informed the members that a website is now available to view. The website is: www.projectread.net. The website explains facts, how you can help and how you can request materials. Toni encourages all members to look at the website.
- 9th Grade CEO's in the school update
- Workforce Investment Board updates
- Meetings: Marketing for CEO's in the school on Feb. 27th/ Jim Woehrle mentioned meeting with ICC Community College regarding non-traditional students returning to college. How can they be helped? What support and encouragement is needed? Meeting is Jan 30th 2008; Jan 24th Advisory Committee and IEDC meeting, WELD meeting was discussed that was held on the first week in January. Another meeting will be held on Jan. 31st 2008, NMBA Forum/meeting that was held on December 12th was discussed. Megan informed the committee member's one hundred forty seven kids from area schools were involved. Eighty kids from Hibbing participated 120B.024, Minnesota at a separate forum later that same day.
- Matt Grose asked the committee members for support on a state issue that involves graduation requirements. Matt brought a "required state tests & graduation requirements" sheet for each member to view. Matt explained how the requirements have changed and Matt feels this is affecting the students with their elective choices. Matt is asking for help with asking the state to not have the graduation requirements revised consistently and licensure flexibility be more optional for the school districts itself. This is under statue Statutes.

ACTION: Bud will check into this statue and see what the Workforce Committee could possibly do. Bud will update the committee at the next workforce committee meeting.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be Feb.20th 2008@ 12:00 noon, Chamber Conference Room

MEETING ADJOURNED

Submitted by Kerry Larsen, Membership & Tourism Coordinator