

# Workforce Development

## April 17th 2010

**PRESENT:** Paula Frings, Vickie Herman, Jessica Knutson, Jaci David, Margie Ritter, Connie Swanson, Mary Witte, Paula Valentine, Kyle Erickson, Candace Perry, Lisa Randall, Megan Christianson

**STAFF:** Kerry Larsen & Bud Stone

Bud Stone called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

### **March 2010 MINUTES:**

Megan Christianson made a motion to approve the March 2010 minutes; Margie Ritter would like to make an amendment to the March minutes; the amendment will be made as follows under Business Membership Recruitment action steps – Margie will also talk with Dave Levelle from MN Power to see who the Human Resources contact is at MN Power. This line will be omitted and the following statement will be added as follows - Jane was to look at roster first before anybody called new participants; Mary Witte seconded with this amendment;

**ACTION:** Kerry will make these changes.

### **UPDATES:**

The committee members had many discussions and updates during this meeting. Conversations included:

**Workforce Development Grant** - Bud gave an update regarding the grant. The committee was successful in their application for funding for one year beginning July 1, 2010. Bud let the committee members know that the Blandin Foundation is going to do an evaluation of the Chambers Workforce Development initiative.

**Future Workers** – A brief update on Future Workers was given. Jessica confirmed that forty-one chaperones were participating so far on May 6<sup>th</sup> 2010. A training session for chaperones will be held. Jessica will announce dates as soon as possible and encouraged the committee members who are chaperoning to attend.

**Grand Works**– Lisa Randall updated the committee on Grand Works. The Grand Works participants will be attending the next Workforce committee and presenting their personal power point.

**Career Fair** – Candace Perry attended the meeting to talk about the Career Fair at Itasca Community College. Candace handed out a list of last years booth participants and a career fair itinerary. After a brief conversation on how to expand the Career Fair in the future a few committee members decided to meet and explore those ideas. Candace will set up a meeting time and will have Kerry forward it out to the committee members. Mary Witte volunteered to help with this process.

**Gold Star Committee – New Chair Selection** – Kerry informed the committee that Bobbie would like to pass the Gold Star initiative to a new committee member. Megan Christianson volunteered to help out if needed. Kerry mentioned that Sherry Frick had volunteered to take over this program. The committee will be updated at the next meeting once all the details are worked out.

**Speakers** – The Grand Works participants will be attending next months meeting. This item will be put back on the agenda for May.

**Strategic Partnering 101 May 13<sup>th</sup> 2010:** Paula updated the committee members on her meeting coming up on May 13<sup>th</sup> 2010. She will be meeting with different school districts regarding CEO's in the schools. A program is trying to be developed for fifth through seven grades. Paula will update the outcome of this meeting at the May 19<sup>th</sup> 2010 meeting.

**SD 318 V4F (Vision for the Future) Committee:** Paula attended this meeting and gave a brief update on the meeting. Paula read to the committee the report on “identifying the needs” of the students.

**Investing In Innovation Grant:** The committee discussed writing a letter of support for the Investing In Innovation Grant through the U.S. Department of Education which includes the Ramp -Up to Readiness Program. The Ramp -Up to Readiness Program reflects the mission and goals of the Chamber's Workforce Development Committee. Margie Ritter made a motion to write a letter of support for the Investing In Innovation Grant; Megan Christianson seconded; Motion carried.

**ACTION:** Kerry will contact Jane regarding Grand Works being the speaker at our next meeting. Kerry will email out the information from Candace when she receives it. Kerry will call Sherry Frick and confirm with her regarding the Customer Service Award process. Bud will write a letter of support for the grant and make sure it goes to the appropriate people.

### **BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT:**

N/A

ACTION: This will be put on the May agenda.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be May 13<sup>th</sup> 2010 at 12:00 p.m./Chamber Conference Room.

**MEETING ADJOURNED**

Submitted by Kerry Larsen, Membership & Tourism Coordinator