



Meeting Minutes – Workforce Working Group

Date: June 13, 2017

Time: 11 AM – 12:30 PM

Location: Prior Lake City Hall – Parkview Conference

Work Group Members:

Michelle Choudek (Chair)		Lee Foley		Nick Slavik	X
Darren Kermes (Chair)		Madelyn Hertaus	X	Patricia Timmons	X
Mike Beard		Brenda Lieske	X	Dr. Rod Thompson	
Joy Bodin	X	Kathryn Reeder	X	Tim Wynes	X
Heather Fitzloff					

Staff Members:

Stacy Crakes	X	Mark Jacobs	X	Jean Sinell	X
Barb Dahl	X	Tim O’Neill	X	Jo Foust	X
Alyssa Meierbachtol	X				

Guests:

Melanie Smieja		Kathy Nielsen	X	Bob Crawford	X
Bethany Tjornhom(FISH)	X	Bob Coughlin	X	Kirt Briggs	X
Kami Thompson (New Horizon)	X	Gaby Mosher (MNCAPs)	X	Carter Collins (MNCAPs)	X
Hannah Erickson (MNCAPs)	X	Jacob Shiek (MNCAPs)	X	Riley Forsyth (MNCAPs)	X

The meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m. by Dahl.

Introductions were made by attendees and guests were welcomed to the meeting.

Agenda Item 1: Steering Committee Update. Nielsen provided an update from the Steering Committee. A policy has been created regarding letters of support from the 50 by 30 initiative. As part of an improved communications plan the Live-Learn-Earn Website is going to be revamped. Each of the working groups should come up with belief statements that define the work the group has done and is

doing. There was also discussion on a roadshow to raise awareness for leadership across the county that would encompass 50 by 30 as well as SCALE as a whole. Patricia Timmons volunteered to participate as part of the committee developing policy recommendations for the comprehensive plans.

Agenda Item 2: MNCAPs Student Presentation. Students Hannah Erickson, Jacob Shiek, Gaby Mosher Carter Collins and Riley Forsyth from the MNCAPs Program presented their findings on the survey that was completed to obtain input on reasons for the higher unemployment rate among 18-24 year olds in Scott County. Students reported they received 375 responses from all communities in Scott County. Approximately 67% were female, 30% male participants, with 3% choosing not to answer. Of those responding 71% were enrolled in a post-secondary educational program. Of those 18 to 24 years old, only 39% were currently enrolled. An overview of the findings was provided.

Employment among those 16 to 24 years of age was reviewed. Approximately 77% of the respondents noted they currently have a job, with 23% not employed. Reasons for not working included conflicts with after school activities, full-time student status, too busy, etc. were reasons for unemployment. Among those 18 to 24 years old, 40% noted they were a full-time student, 15% indicated they were unable to find a job, 15% indicated they were too busy, 5% had no interest in finding a job, 5% stated they did not need a job and 20% had "other reasons". Of those employed, most respondents indicated they drive themselves to places of employment.

Methods of finding employment were reviewed. A majority of high school students (60%) reported they found their job through a friend. Those 18 to 24 years old indicated they utilized on-line sites such as indeed.com to find a job. The primary factor of employment for high school students was flexibility, while 18 to 24 year olds reported wages were more important. The actual job or activity was the least important for both age groups.

Forms of social media used by youth included Instagram and SnapChat for 16-18 year olds and Facebook for 18 to 24 year olds.

MNCAP students presented four recommendations based on the survey results:

- 1 Development of a web site which would post all open jobs within Scott County, with search options including wages for the jobs.
- 2 The use of Social Media to advertise job openings, including Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat with the use of captions and pictures versus long paragraphs or clickbait.
- 3 The use of paid social media utilizing filters to target various age groups.
- 4 Exploring local options for post-secondary education, as 60% of respondents noted they would consider attending a local post-secondary educational facility if available.

MNCAPs students were thanked for their presentation and work.

Agenda Item 3: Policy Recommendations Sub Group

The housing group has been working on developing policy recommendations for awhile now, and is enlisting the help of the transportation group and workforce readiness group to help develop a list of policy recommendations that can be presented to each of the cities and the county as they are working on the comprehensive plan updates. The Workforce Readiness Group was asked if anybody wanted to participate in this sub group; Patricia Timmons volunteered.

Agenda Items 4: Scott County WFC/Library Programs; School Program Chart
Pushed to next meeting due to time constraints.

Agenda Item 5: Action Items:
Pushed to next meeting due to time constraints.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 11, 2017 at 11:00 a.m., depending on availability of committee members.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.