

MINUTES

Apprenticeship Advisory Board Meeting

Date: April 19, 2017
Time: 1:30pm
Location: Minnesota Room
Minnesota Department of Labor & Industry
443 Lafayette Road N
St. Paul, MN 55155

Attendance:

Members Present:

Harry Melander
Laurie Warner
April Schnell
Todd Ferrara
Tom McCarthy
Matt McDowell
Jeni Blaylock
Don Mullin
John Aiken – DLI

Members Not Present:

Everett Pettiford

Attendees:

Mark Conroy – Roofers Local 96
Andrew Richmond – Roofers Local 96
Jerry Griffis
LaRohn Latimer – DLI
Rick Martagon – DLI
Christa Seaberg – Construct Tomorrow
Tyler Aman – GRE
Tom Westlund – ABC
Jamie Quenzer – ETN of MN
Terry Frauly – DLI
Betsy Adamson – DLI
Leslie Philmon – DLI
Norma Miller – MUL
Tony Gardner – YWCA
Sophie Thaden – MMCA/NECA
Larry Gilbertson – IW512
Brianna Mensing – Carpenters
Gary Larsen – Laborers
David Madson – BAC
Michael Johnson

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Chair Melander at 1:30pm.

- a. **Roll Call** - chair directed that the record note those members in attendance.
- b. **Announcements** – Introduction of April Schnell as the ex-officio member of the Apprenticeship Board. Schnell is from the Minnesota Department of Education and succeeds Mike Mitchell who recently retired from state service.

II. Approval of the April Meeting Agenda

A motion was made to accept the agenda as present, and seconded. Agenda approved without objection.

III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes from January 18, 2017.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the January 18, 2017 meeting minutes as presented. No corrections, errors or omissions. Minutes approved unanimously.

IV. Old Business

None presented.

V. New Business

1. Registered Apprenticeship Report:

Apprenticeship Director John Aiken reported the following:

Aiken expressed thanks to apprenticeship coordinators for their continued commitment to registered apprenticeship and for their cooperation in completing program compliance reviews.

Outreach:

Aiken reported that Apprenticeship Minnesota continues to support Construct Tomorrow noting that it participated in successful events that were held in Duluth and Hinckley recently.

Aiken discussed two initiatives underway in Apprenticeship Minnesota— Minnesota Apprenticeship Initiative (MAI) and APEX expansion. MAI continues efforts to expand apprenticeship into sectors of advanced manufacturing, healthcare, IT, and agriculture. Aiken acknowledged some challenge in developing an IT and agriculture program, but DLI has demonstrated great success in advanced manufacturing and healthcare. Two new programs at Pequot Tool and Manufacturing and Potlach were welcomed by Apprenticeship Minnesota. Aiken said that APEX expansion planning efforts are currently underway. Aiken introduced Betsy Adamson, APEX Project Manager to the meeting and discussed her role as one who will assist in implementing expansion efforts, support APEX partner’s career readiness efforts and report grant outcomes.

2. Discussion and Approval of Registered Apprenticeship Report

Member Ferrara asked that Aiken speak to some of the challenges in IT and agriculture. Aiken responded indicating that Apprenticeship Minnesota is engaging more on dispelling myths about apprenticeship while emphasizing to employers the model’s flexibility and effectiveness.

3. Construct Tomorrow Update

Christa Seaberg, Co-chair Construct Tomorrow

Seaberg reported that Construct Tomorrow is actively engaged in planning events including two in the Twin Cities in the fall and spring as well as one on the Iron Range. She added that Construct Tomorrow is also actively engaged in efforts to bring Construct Tomorrow to the St. Cloud, Rochester and Duluth areas.

She also announced that a Construct Tomorrow Summit is currently being explored.

4. Apprenticeship Coordinator's Report
Larry Gilbertson, ACAM President

Gilbertson updated the board generally on apprenticeship coordinator activities including interviews, hiring, and apprenticeship competitions. He added that despite completions, coordinators are looking to increase apprenticeship numbers overall. Gilbertson referenced gender and diversity goals and efforts to meet those goals.

Gilbertson said that they have been increasing their outreach efforts with Construct Tomorrow and other organizations that contact them. ACAM is working with Rich Croon at North Hennepin Community College about potentially getting set up so that their apprenticeship programs will get college credit through the MNSCU system, and a discount to their students on the transfer credit amount.

Gilbertson reported that they are going to have the annual golf fund raiser on May 31st at Majestic Oaks.

John Aiken: Aiken asked whether DOLI is meeting the Apprenticeship Coordinator's needs with training, or if there is anything they can do to help build a closer relationship.

Gilbertson responded that any way they can be enlightened about best practices that other people are doing they are all for it.

4. Board Discussion

Matt McCarthy wanted to know if anyone knew about possible changes in the apprenticeship standards regarding the legislature being able to drop off the 18 year old requirement and bring some 16 year old students in to be involved in some of the apprenticeships.

Jessica Looman, Deputy Commissioner

Looman provided a brief report and update regarding activities at the Minnesota Legislature. She said that a Youth Skills Partnership bill has been proposed to establish experiential learning for 16- and 17-year olds but emphasized the safeguards in place for youth by the Minnesota child labor laws noting the construction site prohibition on working youth younger than 18 years of age.

VI. Adjournment