

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 20, 2023
11:30 am

MINUTES

STAFF: Melchor, Thoo, Walter

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Chair Koepp-Baker called the hybrid meeting to order at 11:45 am.

Roll Call

Present: Bojorquez, Koepp-Baker, Smith, Takahashi

Absent: Auerhahn, Batra, Estill

II. CONSENT ITEMS

ACTION: Mr. Bojorquez moved, Mr. Takahashi seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved the acceptance of the minutes of the February 16, 2023, Executive Committee meeting, the minutes of the February 27, 2023, Executive Committee Special meeting, and the Financial Status Report as of February 28, 2023.

III. OPEN FORUM

Chair Koepp-Baker asked for any public comments. None were noted.

IV. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. Director's Report

work2future Director Monique Melchor welcomed Committee members to the first in-person meeting since the COVID-19 emergency was declared in March 2020 and noted that the organization was starting its 23rd year serving the community. She highlighted several applications to be submitted to the state, including Board recertification and high-performing Board, as well as waivers to increase the percentage of training funds that can be spent on adult transitional jobs and the maximum reimbursement of on-the-job training wages from 50% to 90%, and to provide more in-school youth services. Ms. Melchor also shared details about an upcoming job fair.

B. Board Recertification

Ms. Melchor asked the Committee to approve, on behalf of the Board, the application to the California Workforce Development Board for the recertification of the work2future Board.

ACTION: After discussion, Ms. Smith moved, Mr. Bojorquez seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved, on behalf of the Board, the application to the California Workforce Development Board for the recertification of the work2future Board.

C. WIOA Client Outcomes

Ms. Melchor provided the Committee a report on PY2021-22 client outcomes in the WIOA Adult Program, Dislocated Worker Program, and Youth Program, and on PY2022-23 client outcomes to date in the Youth Program. There was some discussion among the Committee members.

D. work2future Board Retreat Follow-up

Board and Executive Committee Chair Susan Koepp-Baker discussed plans to follow up on the Board Retreat held on March 16, 2023. She is working with staff to develop an ad hoc committee to review and refine the ideas that were offered at the Board Retreat and recommend a prioritized set or subset of actionable ideas for the Executive Committee to consider. Committee member discussion followed.

E. Business Services Committee Report

Business Services Committee Chair Alan Takahashi reported that the most recent Business Services Committee meeting was postponed and noted no other updates.

F. Youth Committee Report

On behalf of Youth Committee Chair Jack Estill, Strategic Engagement Manager Lawrence Thoo reported that the next Youth Committee meeting is scheduled for May 11, 2023, and noted no other updates.

G. Labor Market Update

Strategic Engagement Manager Thoo reported on the status of the labor market in Santa Clara County and the San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). The unemployment rate in the MSA was 3.2 percent in February 2023, up slightly from a revised 3.1 percent in January 2023, but still below the year-ago estimate of 3.3 percent, according to the Employment Development Department's Labor Market Information Division. This compares with an unadjusted unemployment rate of 4.8 percent for California and 3.9 percent for the nation during the same period. The unemployment rate was 3.1 percent in Santa Clara County. Total employment for the month in the MSA, which also includes San Benito County, marked a sharp reversal from the January loss of more than 20,000 jobs, with a net increase of 6,100 jobs to reach 1,174,600. There was some discussion about the impacts of severance packages on the unemployment rate, as well as any potential fallout from recent bank failures on the local business community.

V. OTHER

Mr. Thoo shared details about an upcoming lunch meeting for the Youth Forum and invited Committee members to attend. He also reminded Committee members about the Spring Career Fair on April 25, 2023.

Mr. Bojorquez discussed a possible WIOA funding opportunity for special enterprises.

Chair Koepp-Baker asked for other announcements or housekeeping items. None were noted.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Koepp-Baker adjourned the hybrid meeting at 12:53 pm.

Drafted: D. Walter. Reviewed: L. Thoo.