Governor’s Council on Economic Expansion: 01/31/2022

Minutes prepared by: Jenny Poole, Department of Human Services
Location: Virtual

Attendance

- Jeffrey Ettinger, Co-Chair, Hormel (formerly)
- Paul Williams, Co-Chair, Project for Pride in Living
- Joe Fowler, Minnesota Building and Construction Trades Council
- Jodi Hubler, Medical Alley Association
- Brenda Hilbrich, SEIU Healthcare Minnesota
- Neel Kashkari, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis
- Marcus Owens, African American leadership Forum; Linking Leaders
- Tuleah Palmer, Blandin Foundation
- Joo Hee Pomplun, Alliance for Metropolitan Stability
- Nonoko Sato, Minnesota Council on Nonprofits
- Traci Tapani, Wyoming Machine
- Bharti Wahi, Department of Human Services
- Penny Wheeler, Allina Health (formerly)
- Steve Grove, Department of Employment and Economic Development
- Jodi Harpstead, Department of Human Services
- Roslyn Robertson, Department of Labor and Industry

Agenda

2:00 PM      Meeting convenes
2:00 PM – 2:05 PM  Agenda overview and Council update
2:05 PM – 2:25 PM  Small group activity: Naming vision statements
2:25 PM – 2:30 PM  Break
2:30 PM – 3:00 PM  Small group activity: Planning for Phase 2
3:00 PM – 3:30 PM  Report out and large group discussion
3:30 PM – 4:00 PM  Review next steps
4:00 PM      Meeting adjourns
Next Meeting

Date: 02/14/2022
Time: 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Location: Virtual

Meeting Notes

Meeting convenes

- Commissioner Steve Grove started the meeting with the announcement that this meeting is fully virtual because an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent due to the health pandemic, pursuant with Minnesota Statutes, section 13D.021.

Agenda overview and Council update

- Many of the Council’s recommendations from Phase 1 were taken by the Governor and Lieutenant Governor and included in their Walz-Flanagan Budget to Move Minnesota Forward.
  - Governor’s Council for Economic Expansion investment recommendations included in the Walz-Flanagan Budget to Move Minnesota Forward: FY 2022-23: $0.959 B / FY 2022-23: $1.730 B
    - Entrepreneurship and Small Businesses - FY 2022-23: $57 M / FY 2024-25: $10 M
    - Child Care - FY 2022-23: $271.848 M / FY 2024-25: $1,529.883 M
    - Infrastructure and Technology - FY 2022-23: $170.2 M / FY 2024-25: $0 M
    - Community - FY 2022-23: $83.123 M / FY 2024-25: $5.607 M
  - Today’s meeting is designed to finish preliminary visioning that will be used to guide the Council’s Phase 2 work.

Small group activity: Naming vision statements

The Council members self-selected into four breakout rooms that contained clustered goals from the January 14 meeting. They were tasked with creating a practical vision statement that captured the ideas behind those goals. The vision statements created by each of the breakout groups are below.

- Minnesota is the healthiest, greenest, safest, most equitable place to live, build a business, raise a family and to feel like you belong.
- Eliminate health disparities to allow for full health potential and no one is disadvantaged from achieving this potential because of social position or other socially determined circumstances.
• Good practices require holistic support of workers and businesses with intentional inclusion of BIPOC communities and activation of existing assets.
• Building the scalable core components of household prosperity for all Minnesotans.

Small Group Activity: Planning for Phase 2

• Each of the small groups answered three questions, using the vision statements created during the first small group activity to focus their conversations.
  o What do we want to learn?
  o Who do we want to hear from?
  o How should we engage?

Review next steps

• The co-chairs and commissioners want the process of designing the schedule of objectives to be a whole-Council effort.
  o The small groups identified communities and individuals to connect with to get their input on the clustered goals and visions the Council generated.
  o The next few meetings will be scoped out, after which the Council will identify what the next focus should be.
• Subgroups may be used throughout this phase.
• The State Demographer will be invited to the next Council meeting. Council members identified some topics they would like her to address:
  o Healthcare and the aging population in Minnesota
  o Potential sources of new workers
    ▪ Climate change and worker migration
  o Breakout data by race and ethnicity
  o Facts or trends that will help the Council imagine how to thrive in 2032
• A representative from DEED’s Labor Market Information Office should also be invited as a companion presenter to speak about labor force trends and where the economy is currently.
  o What is changing in the caring professions (healthcare, education) workforce? Who is leaving? Who is coming in?
  o Look through an equity lens at an overview of Minnesota’s economy before the pandemic, what has changed, what DEED is projecting, and what is unknown.
  o Use a long-term lens to look at workforce trends.
  o Layout of small businesses in Minnesota by size, revenue, industry, and who owns them.
    ▪ Steve Grove, Commissioner of the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), agreed that DEED can provide a size and composition analysis, but does not yet have demographic data on who owns businesses. They have a grant to gather that data, but have not completed their work as of yet.
  o Who is not active in the labor force and why? Where were they last actively employed?
• This Council has a lot of expertise and diverse interests, and can accomplish more through parallel work by subcommittees. There will need to be a conscious effort to make sure work by these subcommittees is not siloed.

• It will be challenging to create a comprehensive roadmap in six months.
  o The roadmap will need to identify who is aligned in this work, and who can pick it up and carry it on after the Council has finished its work.
  o The co-chairs have the goal of finishing a draft of the roadmap so it can be put in front of communities outside of this Council for feedback. It is good to seek external input, but there is no way to engage with all the people and communities that could provide strong contributions.

• A focus on the “how” will make the final product roadmap more concrete and useful. Background information already exists from public, private, and non-profit perspectives, so the Council’s document should be actionable.