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Cavalier Johnson, Mayor, City of Milwaukee
Elected Official

Donald W. Layden, Jr.
Chair

EMPLOY MILWAUKEE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board of Directors
Thursday, June 8, 2023
8:30am-10:00am

In Person

Employ Milwaukee 2342 N. 27th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53210

APPROVED MINUTES

Members: Deshea Agee, Chytania Brown, Carla Cross, Randy Crump, Andres Gonzalez, Maysee Herr, Mark Kessenich, John Kissinger, Don Layden, Darryl Morin, Alan Perlstein, Karen Spindler, Sylvia Swan, Amanda Manthey, Shannon Lesselyoung, Jennifer Fogarty

Absent Members: Dan Bukiewicz, Jakeim Jackson-Bell, Eduardo Garza, Vicki Martin, Lupe Martinez, Dr. Mark Mone, Dr. Keith Posley

Guests:

Employ Milwaukee Staff: Julie Cayo, Annemarie Probst, Romell Greer, Mildred Coby, Wylbur Holloway Brenda King

Chair Donald Layden called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

1. Approval Of Meeting Minutes from March 9, 2023
Approved Unanimously.
2. Guest Speaker Romell Greer, Special Projects Manager with Employ Milwaukee (EMI). Romell discussed the Camp Rise program which was created as an early intervention work-based learning experience. The first day will be June 20th and will end on July 31st. The application period is closed but EMI received 973 registrations, sent 414 to MPS for review to verify they attend a Milwaukee Public School, which is a requirement, 250 individuals are enrolled with 200 being boys and 50 being girls. Camp Rise will have 34 camp counselors that have been hired that all have experience working with children. The scheduled field trip highlights are Discovery World, Havenswoods State Forest, Brewers Game, Incrediroll, Jones Island and Aurora Healthcare.

Wylbur Holloway, Re-Entry Services Manager shared the reentry simulation that took place on April 26th, this simulation should employers, legislators, politicians, service providers and community members to give the participants and “up close” view of what it’s like to come home from prison. The simulation is followed up with lunch and learn zoom sessions that are set to help identify any policies,

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practices, and/or organizational cultural norms or values.

Millie Coby, Director of Community Engagement and Agency Impact shared the agency has a presence in 9 libraries throughout the city, they have 3 satellite locations that has allowed them to serve 300 job seekers with employment, resume creation, program recruitment, enrollment and other educational and wrap around services. The agency will have their 2nd fundraiser this year on October 19th at the University Golf and Country Club.

3. **Chair Report:**

Executive Committee: Don shared that the Executive Committee approved Board Nominations from the governance committee and contracts from the program committee. Conversation with PFA committee to complete an investment policy, the FY23 Budget has been approved and the agency is seeking RFP'S for a new 401k service provider.

CEO Update: Chytania shared her community speaking engagements, Winning with Wisconsin's Workforce event, Greater Milwaukee Committee fireside chat, Kohl's Hometown Partners Summit, WWDA Talent Development Conference, and an interview with Cassandra McShepard from TMJ4 about the Digital Literacy Lab. Julie Cayo shared that new grants were awarded including a \$500,000 continued partnership with Kohls for the Digital Literacy Lab, City of Milwaukee CDBG to support Camp Rise in the amount of \$900,000, US Department of Labor YouthBuild Grant of \$1,496,882 to serve 68 youth over 40 months in construction and roadbuilding skill, a US Department of Labor Nursing Expansion Grant \$2,999,915 that will offer a pathway for a 4 year nursing degree, and \$2,000,000 for a DOL Community Project with Milwaukee Water Works.

4. **Governance, Compliance, & Nominating Committee Update:**

Andres Gonzalez informed the Board that EMI is fully compliant in policy but needs to fill the board with some vacancies. Three (3) candidates have expressed interest, and they are Matthew Martin, Marcus Corporation will be succeeding Steve Martin, Keith Jaskie, United Steelworkers, successor for Mike Daley, and Jeff Mehrhoff will be succeeding Pam Fendt. Two (2) of these individuals must represent labor to maintain compliance. Board Approved unanimously.

5. **Personnel, Finance, & Audit Committee Update:**

John introduced Annemarie Probst as the new CFO of the agency, with the loss of the previous CFO for retirement. Approved the FY24 budget, it is a flat budget with similar numbers to the FY23 budget. PFA committee is still in continued discussion on an Investment Policy and a new service provider for the 401K plan.

6. **Program Committee Update:**

Carla Cross informed the board that the program committee approved the contracts that Chytania mentioned in her CEO report.

7. **Youth Committee Update:**

The youth committee had an informational meeting discussing Camp Rise and the Earn & Learn programs. No approval items.

8. Other:

Carla Cross asked if EMI could possibly look at private sector funding to open Camp Rise to non-MPS students.

Adjourned 9:16am

Next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for September 14, at 8:30 a.m.

