

IOWA PLAINS COMMITTEE

Date: 8/9/2024

Time: 8:30 AM

Facilitator: Holly Espenhover-Chair

IN ATTENDANCE

Linda Rouse-Iowa Workforce Development
Elizabeth Waigand – Iowa Workforce Development
Teresa Larson-White-Iowa Workforce Development
Stephanie Camden-Iowa Workforce Development
Nicolas “Omar” Valentine-Iowa Workforce Development
Holly Espenhover-UnityPoint Health
Andrew Sheffield-CJ Bio America
Chelsie Dobney-UnityPoint Health
Kent Heronimus-Interstates
Cassy Bennett – Lunchtime Solutions
Craig Levine – International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union
Sara Blair – Country Maid
Randall McQueeney- Iowa Workforce Development
Wayne Pantini – Southwestern Community College
Brittney Gutzmann – Voc Rehab
Faith Miller – Iowa Workforce Development

AGENDA

Updates on the Local Plan and the OSO (Linda)
Open seats on the committee (Stephanie)

DISCUSSION

Linda met with a possible OSO and answered questions they had, hoping they are going to submit an application. If the extension does not work out, will have to come back to the committee and talk about maybe making it into a full-time position, which financially, right now wouldn't be in the best interest of Iowa Plains.

We have received feedback from WFS regarding the Local Plan. The Core Partners will be working together to enhance the areas that they made suggestions and then will have the committee review it and then put it out for public comment. Once the Local Plan is enhanced, we will then begin the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and the Infrastructure Funding Agreement (IFA) that all partners will have to sign off on.

In response to the reminder email sent yesterday, a couple of people have asked to be taken off the committee. If Joli's manager does not replace her position on the committee (Community Organization), we will begin looking for a replacement. Currently sitting at needing two small businesses and one labor organization. Craig has volunteered to help fill the second Labor Organization position and will send their names to Holly and Stephanie. For small businesses, we are wanting to find some representation in the southern part of Iowa, Council Bluffs area and Creston area. We are wanting to make sure these individuals are able to attend our monthly meetings, be engaged, and provide great ideas and feedback on how to move the local area forward.

Work Based Learning is one of our top priorities along with training. Title I has a lot of funding available to pay for training in high demand careers, so we want to make sure that we are working together to find the employers that want to participate in work-based learning as well as participants. If you know of anybody who could be eligible for Title I services, please send them our way.

One of the governor's priorities is to have a quality pre-apprenticeship program or registered apprenticeship in each one of the schools. Linda Fandel and her team are doing a lot of outreach to the schools to start to get those quality pre apprenticeship started. IWD had sent out an employer survey regarding work-based learning, those results have recently come back, now they are going to put it in a format that will be easier to read and then share.

There is a smaller amount of funding for In-School Youth, however, if they would benefit from Title I, a referral can be sent, and if the funding is available, Title I could provide support services, or job search, interviewing skills, resume writing, however, our focus must be on Out of School youth and getting them connected to Title I Services.

ACTION PLAN

Once changes are made to the Local Plan, will submit for Committee review.

Continue recruitment of Labor Organization and two small business positions on the committee.

Linda will create a list of the top five things that the committee would benefit from through training.

Next meeting is September 13, 2024, at 8:30 am.