GWDB Racial Equity in Education, Training and Employment Committee

June 4, 2019 – 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

DEED – St. Croix Conference Room

332 Minnesota Street, Suite E200  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:**

* Mariaha Dean, Chair
* Patricia Fenrick
* Sam Heimlich
* Kati Neher
* Tuleah Palmer
* Jovon Perry
* Justin Terrell

**GWDB Staff Present:**

* Kay Kammen

1. **Call to Order**

Chair Mariaha Dean called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. Members attending in person and via conference call were introduced.

Chair Dean complimented the work of Patrice Bailey, who recently departed the Council for Minnesotans of African Heritage to accept the Assistant Commissioner role at the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. She commented that she values the work of the state’s ethnic councils and their contributions to this Committee.

1. **March 12, 2019 Meeting via conference call**

The March 12, 2019 meeting was a brief conference call; The REC Committee did not convene in April or May.

1. **OPPORTUNITIES FOR GWDB COMMITTEES (See attached notes from March 6, 2019 GWDB Meeting Committee Discussion)**

Chair Dean reviewed the committee’s actions in submitting recommendations to the GWDB at its fourth quarter meeting in 2018. Those recommendations were put forth to Governor Walz without accompanying tactics in April 2019. In terms of next steps, it is important to determine

DEED Leadership’s involvement with the REC Committee and how the Committee engages and supports the work of the One Minnesota Council on Diversity, Inclusion and Equity. Chris Taylor has been named the state’s Inclusion Manager. It is not certain whether the Council has held any public meetings to date.

A discussion followed on the staffing level of the Governor’s Workforce Development Board and the desire to have DEED Leadership’s participation in the Committee’s work.

1. **OUTREACH AND OUTCOMES**

The GWDB’s participation and oversight role in the four-year State Plan for Workforce Development due to the U.S. Department of Labor in 2020 was touched on.

1. **ACTION AND PLANNING ITEMS/NEXT STEPS**

Chair Dean informed the Committee that she is not seeking re-appointment to the Governor’s Workforce Development Board. She said she is proud of the work the Committee has done and she has enjoyed working with and learning from the members. She hopes to stay close to the work and may re-apply at a later date. Co-chair Tuleah Palmer plans to continue her involvement as an officer of the Committee. She suggested changing the meeting frequency to quarterly with intermittent calls and work groups.

Tuleah Palmer made a motion for Committee co-chairs to approach DEED Commissioner Steve Grove about prioritizing the hiring of staff necessary for day-to-day operations and leadership of the GWDB. Sam Heimlich seconded the motion and it passed.

Tuleah Palmer made a motion for representatives of the Racial Equity Committee to meet with staff of the One Minnesota Council. Sam Heimlich seconded the motion and it passed.

Kati Neher expressed concern about a pre-determined agenda for the meeting. Co-chair Palmer proposed having an ad hoc meeting to set the agenda.

1. **ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 2:24 p.m.

*The next meeting of the Racial Equity Committee is to be determined.*