



OCTOBER 22, 2020
Full Board Meeting

Board Members Present (virtual): Monty Anderson, Jane Broom, John Bowers, Gina Breukelman, Ligaya Domingo, Todd Dunnington, Berit Eriksson, Kristen Fox, Katie Garrow, Jon Holden, Ann Martin, Shefali McDermott, Cos Roberts, Angela Stowell, John Welch

CLEO's Representatives (virtual): Ashton Allison, Nancy Yamamoto

Guests (virtual): Jack Chapman, Seth Klein, Jill Nishi, Bob Watrus

Staff Present: Beth Blanchard, Michael Davie, Vey Damneun, Marta Kidane, Marie Kurose, Sean Morrin, Bryan Pannell, Tracey Patrick, Jason Petrait, Liesel Schilperoort, Aara Shaikh, Jeff Sikora, Joe Taylor

Materials Distributed:

- October 22, 2020 Draft Agenda
- August 27, 2020 Meeting Minutes
- Executive Summary
- Strategy Summary
- Appendices
- Detailed Strategies
- Self-Sufficiency Standard

I. INTRODUCTION

Board Chair Kristen Fox welcomed board members and guests and initiated roll call. Mr. John Bowers reviewed the August 27, 2020 draft minutes. Chair Fox opened the floor for a motion to approve August 27, 2020 Minutes and October 22, 2020 Draft Agenda. Mr. Cos Roberts moved to approve; Ms. John Welch seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

II. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. WDC Annual Report

Mr. Joe Taylor reviewed the 2019-2020 Annual Report. The report will include case stories and COVID-19 response data.

B. Self-Sufficiency Calculator

Ms. Shelan Aldridge presented the self-sufficiency calculator and data related to the poverty standards. Board members are invited to the University of Washington-led Self-Sufficiency Calculator training.

III. REGIONAL STRATEGIC PLAN

A. Context Setting

Ms. Marie Kurose and Ms. Jill Nishi presented the Regional Strategic Planning process and timeline focused on racial equity, skills development, advocacy, strategies, policy, and system changes. The Regional Strategic Plan will be presented for Board vote and approval at the December 2020 Board meeting.

B. Our North Stars

The Plan's North Stars are equitable economic recovery and job quality, centering recovery as an opportunity, re-envisioning workforce development, livable/family wages, benefits, career advancement and workplace safety.

C. Recovery Outlook & Assumptions

Ms. Trang Tu reviewed the local recovery outlook. Dependent on sector, nationwide employment is projected to return to pre-COVID employment by 2023; regionally by 2022. In May, unemployment reached 14.9% and is currently slowing at 7.0%. Mr. Bob Watrus informed Board members that new and continuing unemployment insurance claimants are disproportionately Black, American Indian, Alaska Native, Women and workers with lower levels of educational attainment.

D. Promising Sectors with Job Growth & Job Quality

Sector selection criteria is quantitative and qualitative, and focused on job quality. Quantitative criteria determine the size and presence of a sector in the regional economy and related short-term recovery/growth. Qualitative criteria are long-term recovery/growth, education and training requirements, sector engagement, commitment, and readiness. Job quality criteria are living/family wages and benefits, career pathways, and workplace safety.

Sectors indicating significant promise are construction, transportation, warehousing and maritime. Low barrier sectors are manufacturing and retail trade. Structural barrier sectors are information technology and health care. Funding should target barriers to employment by creating a pipeline using transferable job skills aligned to sectors.

E. Equity Explicit Strategies

Ms. Kurose reviewed major shifts in implementing the regional workforce development transformation focused on collective ownership, industry and community as driving forces, centering racial equity, systems change, equitable economic recovery, and advocacy.

Workforce development strategies will focus on BIPOC, immigrant and refugee workers. Systems change will require advocacy, funding, and policy modifications. Subsidized transitional employment pathways will leverage awarded Department of Labor (DOL) funds to support relief and recovery jobs in addition to transferable skills job training. The strategy to co-create and co-invest in high demand career pathways will focus on engaging employers, unions, education, and training providers. Creating on-ramps will allow the integration of training with hands-on paid experience in promising sectors while leveraging the resources of existing systems. The Plan intends to support emerging alliances of BIPOC leadership to engage with established leaders of our region.

F. Closing & Next Steps

Systems Alignment Committee final meeting of 2020 is on November 6th. Regional Strategic Plan will be reviewed and voted on at December 2020 meeting; date to be determined.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Fox adjourned meeting 12:01pm.