

8:00 to 9:00

North Minneapolis Workforce Center

Agenda

1. Introductions

2. Building Closing and Construction Update - Beth Grosen, City of Minneapolis

The redevelopment agreement has been signed. An escrow account is being established to purchase the building. We are still waiting for the Federal HSS to grant a lean that will allow the building to be sold and used for this purpose.

Key people are being contacted regarding a timeframe for the groundbreaking.

Total project is currently estimated to be \$7 million.

3. Technology Pathway Update

Jamil Corbin, City of Minneapolis, shared an example of using visio to diagram the technology education and career pathway. The diagram promoted an easier way to understand the pathway and support consistency in how a person would follow a path from start to finish. The concept would be completed by going out into the community to promote technology careers or doing a train the trainer with community organizations on how to describe the career pathway.

Deb Bahr-Helgen explained the cities status as a TechHire city and current efforts to seek Tech Hire funding through a \$100 million federal grant. The grant is competitive.

The majority of this meeting will be dedicated to providing a clear understanding of the current scope of the tenant partners of 800 West Broadway and possible focus areas, enhancement or changes with the move to the new site.

4. Overview of the Minneapolis Workforce Center – Shym Cook and Leona Martin

Workforce Center customers include both employers and employees (job seekers). The WFC has many partners, including Hennepin County and City of Minneapolis. Not all Workforce Center are alike. The Minneapolis south and north locations are considered one Workforce Center with two locations. Many customers are served online. Workforce centers are no longer an unemployment office where you come for benefits. Most of that is done online. They do provide the Career Readiness Credential, as well as “Employment Ready U” a program that includes training in interviewing skills, resume writing, soft skills, etc. Staff work at both locations. The WFC hosts 70,000 visits per year between the two centers.

WFC is currently planning a very large job fair on September 16.

The Workforce Center is part of the Department of Employment and Economic Development. Between Multiple programs and services operate out of the WFC, including:

- Unemployment Services

- Dislocated Worker program – funding is state, city and federal
- MFIP Program
- Minneapolis Works – one to one services of individuals, including the “New Leaf” program that targets individuals with criminal histories.
- Vocational Rehabilitation Services
- Veterans Services
- Step UP – Work with Achieve to provide services to older students, but also manage a special program for younger students seeking work opportunities. Also provide additional youth services.
- Business Service Representatives – provide outreach to the business community.

Many customers are also in need of education and health services. The WFC serves high poverty individuals that often have multiple challenges.

5. Overview of NorthPoint Health and Wellness

Northpoint provides medical, dental, behavior and mental health services. It is a Federally Qualified Community Health Center, meaning they serve an underserved area or population, offer a sliding fee scale, provide comprehensive services. Northpoint is two organizations operating together at one site – NorthPoint Clinic and NorthPoint nonprofit. A community board is the managing entity. Also part of Hennepin County governance structure. In addition to their Penn Avenue location, Northpoint operates clinics in many Minneapolis middle and high schools.

Northpoint has a broad service area, but a significant proportion of customers are in North Minneapolis. In addition to health services they have a computer lab with both instruction and access. NorthPoint is open four evenings per week and Saturdays.

NorthPoint’s mission is to partner to create healthier communities. They do some employment services work, but it is limited.

6. Overview of Minneapolis Public Schools

MPS is leasing the second floor of 800 West Broadway. Services to be offered at the new center will include those targeting 17 through 19 year olds who have left school or are at risk of dropping out. The goal is to re-engage these students, support completion of a secondary credential and connect them to the next steps in their education/ work. This might be community organizations or colleges. MPS is working with MCTC to provide the D3 program (Destination Diploma to Degree) which would support students getting a head start earning college credits while working on their secondary diploma. New “Power of You” support from MCTC would allow these students to receive tuition support both at MCTC and for an additional two years at Augsburg College.

MPS is looking to engage community partners to refer students to education and training opportunities and to further map education/ career options for students.