

NOTES FROM (AWARE)--COLLABORATIVE ORGANIZATIONS RESPONDING TO DISLOCATIONS (CORD) STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

February 10, 2009, 9 a.m., Room H, Job Center

Bob Borremans called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. Those present included:

- Bob Borremans (presiding)
- Gregg Bosak (recording)
- Sue Conley
- Mary Frederick
- Lisa Furseth
- Bud Gayhart
- Gail Graham
- Sharon Kennedy
- Kent Kleiva
- James Otterstein
- Janine Peterson
- Andy Richardson
- Josh Smith

Bob distributed numerous handouts, which included notes from the prior (1-27-09) meeting, a listing of organizations/individuals that Larry Molnar sent his "Save the Date" postcard to, the results of the Federal Resource inquiry survey, the "Critical Needs" list compiled by Larry Molnar at his initial meeting with the group, minutes from the Capacity Building (financial) committee meeting held on January 23, and a sheet depicting possible Steering Committee name changes and the mission statement.

Bob gave an update/summary of where we are at in preparation for the next meeting on February 24 when Larry Molnar will be present for the larger committee meeting. "Save the Date" postcards were mailed by Larry to over 400 persons. The list was reviewed and it was agreed there were many on the list that were not appropriate. James indicated that he felt the list should include only Rock County-related organizations/individuals (with a few exceptions for those located on "fringe" areas). Those present were asked to send their recommended list changes to Gregg (g.bosak@jobcenter.org), and Gregg and Bob will speak to Larry to make sure the list contains only the appropriate names.

Bob mentioned that Larry desires to have a list of prioritized community needs by the next meeting along with funding agencies. He indicated that he didn't want any publicity regarding the March 16 meeting until just prior to that meeting. He has contacted the Governor's office and is working with Nina Carlson, Gov. Doyle's Economic and Workforce Advisory Officer.

There were still some questions and uncertainty about what will happen on March 16. It was explained that it will be a structured session. The first portion will be short presentations by the participating federal, state and private foundations/funding agencies giving brief overviews of their operations. There will then be breakout sessions where Rock County groups attending can discuss grant ideas, proposals and processes with the federal agency

representatives. It was suggested that the steering committee meet with Larry after the program to debrief and look at the next steps.

Bob mentioned that the Steering Committee's name/title of AWARE conflicted with at least two state organizations. A change was discussed and after reviewing several possibilities, they agreed that the title Collaborative Organizations Responding to Dislocations (CORD) would be an appropriate replacement. That will be used from this point forward. The group also discussed a condensed version of the mission statement to be used on letterhead and other materials. The statement "*Community organizations collaborating to address Rock County's evolving economic needs while assisting dislocated workers and their families*" was adopted.

Next the group reviewed the Federal Resource survey and its results (to help determine which organizations are involved, the amounts and sources, frequency, categories, and possible collaborative efforts). Several persons indicated they desired to respond but hadn't had the chance yet, so an extension was given to noon on Monday (2-16-09) and an e-mail reminder will be sent, with results to be tabulated and shared with the CORD Steering Committee members. Bob mentioned that due to this survey, the SWWDB now has an annual subscription to Survey Monkey and others on the committee are welcome to access it.

Bob mentioned that Larry wanted our priorities to be identified very quickly. The Capacity Building/Finance group hoped to have more definitive info after their February 18 meeting. Josh mentioned that the county is compiling a list of where to focus and what groups would be necessary to carry out those actions. Bud mentioned that the Comprehensive Plan (Economic Development) that James and others are developing may provide some usable data. Bob referred the group back to the mission statement and asked where the gaps might be. Mary mentioned many of the former GM employees seem to be "going into a hole," from which extraction might be difficult if not impossible. She said many don't want to ask for help or don't know how in that they've never been there. James said we must condense this down to a common denominator as we don't have the time or resources to do otherwise. He said we must go with the best approach and it will be a work in progress. He asked Gregg and Bob to compile a list to show Larry, consisting of general areas such as: human services, workforce and education, financial/fiscal, infrastructure, and economic development. They could even be further subdivided into timelines such as "Immediate," "Tomorrow," and "Three Months From Now" if appropriate.

Gail reported that the Capacity Building/Financial Committee will be meeting on February 18 at 9 a.m. at the M & I Bank, Janesville. Gregg reported that the Communication Committee is working on developing the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section for the web site and that work needed to continue in tying the UAW and SWWDB web sites with appropriate links. The next meeting will be February 24 in the larger room at the Job Center with Larry Molnar to be in attendance. The meeting concluded at 10:40 p.m.