



Upper Peninsula Michigan Works!

Career and Educational Advisory Council (CEAC)

CEAC Mission: *To facilitate connections between the education system and the business community*
("Connecting Education & Employment")

Page 1 of 3

Upper Peninsula Michigan Works! Career and Educational Advisory Council (CEAC) Meeting Minutes August 8, 2023

I. Call to Order

Ms. Ashley Nevins called the meeting to order at 2:07 pm ET.

II. Roll call

The following members were present:

Ashley Nevins
Tammy Rutledge
Shawn Kolbus
Michael Mulligan
Trent Bellingar
Emily Geiger
Cindy Carter
Cassy Teft De Munoz
Erich Ziegler
Mike Smith
Chris Standerford

The following resources/guests were present:

Steven Gillotte
Betsy Erkkila
Debb Brunell
Jannah Tumey
Megan Boddy
Hanna Duckwall
Corey Soumis

III. Public Comment

No comments.

IV. Approval of Agenda / Approval of Minutes

The CEAC minutes for February 7, 2023, and April 4, 2023, were up for approval. Mr. Trent Bellingar made a motion to approve the CEAC meeting minutes of February 7 and April 4, with support from Mr. Mike Smith, all in favor, motion passes.



Upper Peninsula Michigan Works!

Career and Educational Advisory Council (CEAC)

CEAC Mission: *To facilitate connections between the education system and the business community*
(*"Connecting Education & Employment"*)

V. CEAC Membership & Vacancies

Ms. Emily Geiger and Ms. Pam Versailles were welcomed as new members of the CEAC. Mr. Corey Soumis will be presented as a new nomination at the next Workforce Development Board meeting. The CEAC is looking for new members from the private sector and accepting nominations.

VI. Approval of Bylaws

Prior to the meeting, a review committee, consisting of CEAC members and guests, examined the CEAC bylaws and made recommended changes. Ms. Ashley Nevins presented and reviewed the changes to the CEAC Bylaws. The CEAC members were provided with a copy and an opportunity to review the changes. Mr. Michael Mulligan made a motion to approve the CEAC Bylaws as presented. Ms. Cassy Teft De Munoz seconded the motion, all in favor, motion passes. It was noted to vote in a vice chair at the next CEAC meeting.

VII. Mind Trekkers End of Year Summary / Fundraising for Next Year

An end of year summary of the Mind Trekkers events was given. These events spark curiosity and career exploration. They provide hands on engagement, critical skill building, career exposure, and leadership development. The UP Mind Trekkers events were held in four locations across the upper peninsula of Michigan. There were 453 students in attendance and +60 hands on activity stations. This was all born out of the CEAC. One year ago, the CEAC was exploring the MiCareerQuest model and one year later the progress has been outstanding. The Mind Trekkers events were able to be customized to the goals and mission of the CEAC. The events were a huge success in the UP region. Looking forward, the Mind Trekkers events for the 2023-2024 year were discussed. It was suggested to do two events per year with rotating locations. The cost is nearly \$60,000 to hold these events. There is currently interest and momentum to continue the events. The CEAC is committed to planning and holding 2 events for the upcoming year. Ms. Cassy Teft De Munoz will send out a follow-up email to the CEAC for Mind Trekkers event planning to get ideas.

VIII. Employer Engagement

How the CEAC can increase employer engagement was discussed. The CEAC discussed solutions to help address employers' workforce needs and skill gap issues, increased post-secondary credentials, promoting career development programs, establishing apprenticeships, and establishing or participating in career pathway/exploration events. It can be challenging for employers to



Upper Peninsula Michigan Works!

Career and Educational Advisory Council (CEAC)

CEAC Mission: *To facilitate connections between the education system and the business community*
("Connecting Education & Employment")

Page 3 of 3

physically make it to meetings as they are busy. The CEAC is open to having rotating sites and visiting employers for future meetings.

IX. Apprenticeships

The metrics for apprenticeships were noted and discussed. Currently there are 15 approved programs, 14 active apprentices, 142 enrolled, and 40 of the apprentices are high school youth. Some highlights to note are CCI GuideStar Youth Apprenticeship and Healthcare apprenticeships. Ms. Megan Boddy from Upper Peninsula Michigan Works! is the main contact for apprenticeships.

X. 61B Program Listing / State Ranking

Mr. Michael Mulligan announced the priorities for 61B program funding. The CEAC discussed the program list for the upper peninsula. The top 5 were Health Science, Business Management and Administration, Architecture and Construction, Manufacturing, and Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security. The CEAC members suggested adding Information Technology to the top 5 and dropping Business Management to number 6. A motion to approve the top 5 (Health Science, Information Technology, Architecture & Construction, Manufacturing, and Law, Public Safety Correction & Security) was made by Mr. Trent Bellinger, and seconded by Mr. Chris Standerford. All in favor, motion passes.

XI. Perkins Update

The budgets and activities for regions 1,2, & 3 were presented and discussed among the CEAC. Strategies were also discussed.

XII. Next Meeting and Adjournment

The next CEAC meeting will be held on December 5, 2023. An employer host site will be decided on shortly.