

Youth Council/Forum

Roanoke Valley Workforce Center, Roanoke, VA
Friday, December 14, 2010

Minutes

I. **Call to Order**

Board Chair **Paul Paradzinski** called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m.

II. **Introductions**

Members present:

Paul Paradzinski, Craig County
Joe Annarino, Community Youth Advocate
Laura Elliott, Junior Achievement
Keith Robinson, Goodwill Industries
Harriet Woodward, Community Youth Advocate
Wanda Anthony, Goodwill Industries of the Valleys Youth Program

Members absent:

Ron Jones, TAP This Valley Works
Barbara Humphreys, Franklin County Schools
Matthew McGraw, Dabney S. Lancaster Community College
Michele Wells, Virginia Department of Rehabilitative Service
Cindy Goldstein, Roanoke City Schools
Janel Howery, Job Corp
Kim Moore, Goodwill Industries of the Valleys
Jodylee Edsall, Roanoke County Schools

Staff present:

Doloris Vest, President
Suzanne Luzier, Program Coordinator

Visitors present:

Sally Farrell, Craig County 4-H
Beverly Amburgey, Goodwill Industries of the Valleys
Jennifer Hodges, Goodwill Industries of the Valleys
Johnny Stone, TAP

A quorum was present.

III. **Approval of Minutes**

Due to the planned video conference call with the Piedmont Workforce Board Youth Council, Charlottesville, the approval of minutes will be an action item of the January Youth Council meeting.

IV. **Video Conference Call – Piedmont Workforce Board Youth Council**

A. Due to technical problems with the Video Conference connection, the joint council video conference with the Piedmont Workforce Board Youth Council did not transpire. This call will be rescheduled for a later date.

V. **Reports**

A. Youth Programs: Ms. Amburgey reported on the Youth programs. There were very few enrollments this month. Although, there are expected to be 14 enrollments by months end. There have been 10 youth placed in work experiences, of which one lost their job due to their own actions. **Ms. Anthony** added that there are 10 youths (in Franklin County) that

are ready for jobs. **Ms. Amburgey** also reported the youth are participating in training or job readiness programs, GED programs, as well as First Aid.

A discussion followed about potential new programs and/or referrals points for the younger and older youth. **Mr. Annarino** suggested "Cool City", a program that incorporates "Green" groups, training, etc. **Ms. Vest** suggested referrals to the CREATES grant.

Ms. Anthony reported that the youth will take part in the 4-H Summer Camp in August. She also discussed the need to have Craig County involved in the Youth Program.

- B. Youth Council Strategic Direction: Ms. Elliott** was to report on the strategic direction of the Youth Council, but will do so at the next council meeting.
- C. Workforce Development Board Update: Ms. Vest** reported updates at the Workforce Development Board office.
 - a. Ms. Vest** asked the council members to recruit new appointments to the Youth Council. She stated to meet state certification regulations the council needs a member that is the parent of a current youth program participant, as well a member from the Housing Authority.
 - b. Ms. Luzier** discussed the "Moving On" grant and the Covington Farmers' Market grant. She suggested referring the older youth to the Moving On program. **Ms. Elliott** suggested tying in the Junior Achievement's Company Program with the Covington Farmers' Market program.
 - c. Ms. Vest** announced the need for a grant writer in the board office. This position is currently being recruited.
 - d. Ms. Vest** stated the board office and its employees are looking for new grants and always looking for new grant ideas. She asked the council to consider this and make any suggestions to the board office.
 - e. Ms. Vest** reviewed one of the current AmeriCorps programs
 - i. SHARE Network** – Ms. Michelle Manns is working to implement the SHARE Network in rural areas and other neighborhoods that do not have convenient access to Workforce Centers and/or other partners with assistance programs. This network would consist of community businesses, as well as social and faith based organizations.

VI. Unfinished Business

- A. Ms. Elliott** has someone in Botetourt County that she will contact.
- B. Ms. Woodward** is actively working with Alleghany and Covington alternative education providers to allow participation in the youth programs. Scheduling conflicts continue to create barriers.
- C. Mr. Annarino** continues to encounter obstacles in penetrating the Homes School Association in the Roanoke area. He has talked with 6 groups.

VII. New Business

- A. Mr. Robinson** announced that there has been a grant obtained for \$1,500 from the local Kiawanis Club. This grant will fund a one day "green" event for youth in current programs to gain exposure to "Green" jobs and initiatives.
- B. Mr. Robinson** announced there is an opening for a full-time Mentoring Coordinator in Roanoke.
- C. Ms. Anthony** discussed the online survey results from participants. The results had not been compiled into reporting measures, but had early signs of very positive results.

A discussion followed concerning the choices that youth are making, and what impacts those decisions. There is a need to influence youth not to rely on public assistance.

VIII. Announcements

- A. **Youth Council Meeting**, Thursday, January 13, 2011, at 9:00 a.m., at the Roanoke Workforce Center.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:27 a.m.

Doloris E Vest

Doloris Vest, president

December 29, 2010

Date