

Youth Council/Forum

Roanoke Valley Workforce Center, Roanoke, VA
Thursday, January 13, 2011

Minutes

I. **Call to Order**

Board Chair **Paul Paradzinski** called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

II. **Introductions**

Members present:

Paul Paradzinski, Craig County
Joe Annarino, Community Youth Advocate
Harriet Woodward, Community Youth Advocate
Matthew McGraw, Dabney S. Lancaster Community College

Members absent:

Ron Jones, TAP This Valley Works
Barbara Humphreys, Franklin County Schools
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
Wanda Anthony, Goodwill Industries of the Valleys Youth Program
Laura Elliott, Junior Achievement
Keith Robinson, Goodwill Industries

Staff present:

Doloris Vest, President
Suzanne Luzier, Program Coordinator

Visitors present:

Sally Farrell, Craig County 4-H
Beverly Amburgey, Goodwill Industries of the Valleys
Johnny Stone, TAP
Jill Barnett, Covington Department of Social Services
Sara Vaughn, Salem/Roanoke County Libraries
Lynn McDowell, Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare

A quorum was present.

III. **Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Annarino moved to accept the consent agenda (minutes from the November 12, 2010 and December 14, 2010 meetings). Ms. Woodward seconded. The motion was passed on a voice vote.

IV. **Reports**

A. Youth Programs: Ms. Amburgey reported on the Youth programs.

- a. Enrollment was slow through the month of December due to the Holidays and weather.
- b. 7 Youth were enrolled in the month of December in the Alleghany/Covington Area.
- c. **Reports: Ms. Amburgey** presented a new status report

- i. The numbers have been revised to more accurately reflect the programs activity. There have been 16 total youths to receive their diplomas, but only 6 have successfully exited the program.
- ii. The new reports common measures were explained.
 - 1. The In School participants must obtain a diploma and have a job or attend post-secondary education to be a successful exit.
- d. To keep performance numbers where they need to be, and to keep focused on the goals of the program, those hardest hit by barriers will not be receiving assistance through the youth program. These participants will be referred to other programs.
 - i. Concentration will focus on Juniors and Seniors.

A discussion followed regarding where the youth referrals are being made to, and where they are coming from. **Ms. Amburgey** stated that barriers may prevent helping those youth that are borderline without barriers.

There has been one job placement in Craig County. There were concerns raised about the job placement of this youth, and the environment they are working in. **Ms. Amburgey** suggested money be spent to promote the program, but also said that transportation is an issue.

B. Workforce Development Board Update: Ms. Vest reported updates at the Workforce Development Board office.

- a. There hasn't been a lot of changes at the office.
- b. Interviews have been conducted for a grant writer. This position is hoped to be filled in the coming weeks.
- c. If anyone sees or knows of grant opportunities that would benefit any existing programs, or to support a new program, please inform the board office.
- d. CREATES and the Moving On grant are both open for older youth to participate.
- e. Coming in the near future, there will be changes to the board's website. It will be geared more for the end user.
- f. It has not been decided if the board will RFP PY 2011 funds in July.
- g. There needs to be a representative from Franklin County on the youth council, or participation from that area. There could also be participation from a former youth participant.

V. Unfinished Business

- A. **Ms. Elliott** and **Ms. Anthony** were both unable to attend the meeting to update on Botetourt County.
- B. **Ms. Woodward** stated Alleghany and Covington alternative education providers are very interested in participating in the Youth programs.
- C. **Mr. Annarino** continues to encounter obstacles in penetrating the Homes School Association in the Roanoke area. He has made contact with North Cross and Faith Christian School in the private school sector. **Ms. Vest** will provide text writing to **Mr. Annarino** about the Reality Stores to present to others. Ms. Vest asked should we have marketing materials or flyers printed up to promote the youth council and its programs? The unanimous response was yes.
- D. A discussion was held on a variety of different people and groups within the community that would be great partners with the youth council to make more ideas come to reality.
- E. **Ms. Vest** inquired as to what we want to do with the youth outside of public schools. **Mr. Annarino** stated the current focus is on recruitment and participation. **Mr. Annarino** asked **Ms. Vaughn** about current groups and/or programs at the library that

could be associated with the Reality Checks. **Ms. Vaughn** stated there are several groups active at the libraries. The summer reading program, teen advisory boards, etc.

VI. New Business

- A. Mr. Paradzinski** asked for accomplishments from the Youth Council. Some of those are listed below:
- a. Over 200 Reality Stores in various schools.
 - b. Prevention Council
 - c. Career Council in Alleghany Highlands
 - d. Truancy Board
 - e. Leadership Council
 - f. Youth Forum
 - g. Career Futurist
 - h. Hallow-TEEN
 - i. Youth Job Fair (Dress for Success)
 - j. My Future Rocks
 - k. Coyner Springs Juvenile Detention Home implanted the Goodwill Youth Program
 - l. Sponsorship of the Modern General Assembly
- B. Mr. Paradzinski** led a discussion about 18-21 year olds in college, and their involvement with the youth council and future projects. **Mr. McGraw** is going to look into various groups on campus at Dabney S. Lancaster to get involved.
- C. Ms. Vest** asked **Mr. Stone** if he or someone from TAP would like to come present to the Youth Council on the Parent Youth Advisory Committee and its current plans and involvement with the local youths. He agreed to have himself or someone else present this information to the Youth Council at a future date.
- D. Ms. Vest** led a discussion on marketing and promotion of the Youth Council within the community. Ideas from 211, to Facebook and other social media sites, to advertising on the radio and in the newspaper. There needs to be data and numbers to back up the programs, to offer a way to market the council to these media outlets.

VIII. Announcements

- A. Youth Council Meeting**, Thursday, February 10, 2011, at 9:00 a.m., at the Roanoke Workforce Center.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Doloris E Vest

Doloris Vest, president

January 17, 2011

Date