

**Western Virginia Workforce
Development Board**

**Youth Council
Minutes
May 10, 2005**

I. Call to Order

Council Chair Paul Paradzinski called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

II. Roll Call

Members present: **Paul Paradzinski**, Chair – Craig County; **Ron Jones**, TAP Youth Programs; **Jennifer Unroe**, 4-H Youth Development; **Jodylee Edsall**, Roanoke County Schools; **Jeri Barnes**, Old Dominion Job Corps Center; **Xavier Hairston**, Roanoke County Life Skills Mentoring Program; **Harriet Woodward**, Alleghany/ Covington Department of Social Services; **Marion Vaughn-Howard**, Roanoke Department of Park and Recreation Youth Services Division

Members not present: **Becky Johnson**, MeadWestvaco; Representative from Virginia Department of Rehabilitative Services; **Russ Merritt**, Franklin County YMCA; Representative from Roanoke City Schools; **Stephen Aukward**, Virginia Department for the Blind and Visually Impaired; **Bill Zimmerman**, Diversion Program; **Wayne Flippen**, John C. Nordt Co.

Guests present: **Wanda Anthony**, Goodwill Industries of the Valleys/Youth services; **James "Jim" Steele**, Assistant Director, Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committee

Staff present: **Doloris Vest**, WDB coordinator; **Anne Cooney**, administrative assistant

III. Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Paradzinski called for approval of the minutes of March 8, 2005, meeting as posted on the WDB website. **Motion to approve minutes (as published) by Marion Vaughn-Howard; seconded by Jodylee Edsall. Motion passed unanimously.**

Note: there was no Youth Council meeting in April, 2005.

IV. Contractor Reports

A. **Goodwill Industries of the Valleys/Youth:** Guest Wanda Anthony reported that, to date, 142 youth clients have been served.

1. Two WIA youth participants were recognized at the Goodwill Annual Awards reception May 5. Katherine Franklin was named Graduate of the Year; Marshall's Department Store, which has hired a number of WIA participants, was named Employer of the Year.

2. Goodwill Banquet will honor 26 graduates and GED participants at its annual banquet June 2 at the Holiday Inn/Airport.

3. Ms. Anthony wants to do a special Work Readiness project in June: take youth on tour of colleges and businesses, hear directly from the college and business people about employers' expectations. The project faces funding and transportation issues. Ms. Anthony invites Board members to participate if possible. She will advise the Youth Council as the program develops.

- B. **TAP This Valley Works:** Ron Jones reported 45 youth to date; in April 25 students in tutoring sessions (numbering 102); 3 students in 7 home sessions. Eleven students made the education and leadership trip to Washington, DC; two students attended the Roanoke Higher Education Center open house; 17 youths in college and career training. Mr. Jones described the success of the recent Join Hands project TAP participated in (and hoping to win the \$1,000 project prize). 40 participants – all students – had planned to plant flowers at a nursing home; instead, at the *residents'* request, read out loud and played Trivia.
- C. **Roanoke Department of Parks and Recreation/Youth Services:** Marion Vaughn-Howard reported that Youth Service Day was held in Roanoke on Saturday, April 16; 800 children in the city and valley participated. Ms. Vaughn-Howard worked with 65 kids working on Hurt Park.
- D. **Workforce Development Board report:** Doloris discussed the April 22 Steering Committee meeting. The committee recommends:
- marketing the One-Stops to individuals and businesses;
 - finding a conduit from One-Stops to youth programs;
 - restructuring the Board
 - having primary Board work done in committees.
- Also, the CLEO Consortium now consists of the chief administrative officers from each locality, promoting a stronger association with the Economic Development Partnership, which the consortium also oversees.

V. Unfinished Business

Funding: 25 percent of Youth funds are awarded annually on April 1; the Board has 27 months to expend funds. Currently the Board is determining which programs to continue until the next round of RFPs.

Because performance information from the **VWN database** is inconsistent and of limited use to judge program quality, Ms. Vest devised a questionnaire based on each specific contract to assess local programs. (See attachments distributed at meeting.)

WIA reauthorization has passed House but not Senate. Ms. Vest referenced letter from Ms. Dee Esser, VEC/WIA office in Richmond, not supporting proposed WIA Plus program.

Requests for Proposal: Ms. Vest shared a sample youth services RFP from Chester County, PA. One thing clarified in PA sample: AREA has to provide all 10 elements, not contractor. Suggestion here: set up Youth Council **by-laws**.

VI. New Business

Guest speaker **Jim Steele, Assistant Director of the Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committee (JATC)**, spoke to the Youth Council today to say that his organization needs candidates for its electrical apprenticeship program in this area. Mr. Steele presented an overview of the program and gave out printed materials. The program participants with full-time jobs with benefits while attending classes once every other week. Participants received free tuition and books.

VII. Announcements

The next Youth Council meeting will be Tuesday, June 14, 2005, at 9 a.m. at the Roanoke Higher Education Center, Room 810.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Anne M. Cooney
Anne M. Cooney, administrative assistant

5/27/05
Date