

Youth Council/Forum

Franklin County Workforce Development Consortium,
Rocky Mount, VA
Thursday, May 10, 2007

Minutes

I. Call to Order

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

II. Roll Call

Sherry Dean called the roll. Members present:

Paul Paradzinski, Craig County
Harriet Woodward, Alleghany/Covington Department of Social Services
Jodylee Edsall, Roanoke County Schools
Michele Wells, VA Department of Rehabilitative Services
Wanda Anthony, Goodwill Industries of the Valleys Youth Program
Barbara Humphreys, Franklin County Schools
Cindy Goldstein, Roanoke City Schools

Members absent:

Ron Jones, TAP This Valley Works
Jennifer Unroe, 4-H Youth Development
Marion Vaughn-Howard, Roanoke City Department of Parks and Recreation Youth
Services Division
Bill Zimmerman, Diversion Program
Laura Elliott, Junior Achievement
Lisa Meek, Old Dominion Job Corp

Staff present:

Doloris Vest, president
Sherry Dean, accountant

Visitors present:

Melanie Younger, Workforce System Coordinator
Fred Mendez, Old Dominion Job Corp
Kim Moore, Disability Program Navigator
Megan Hess, Roanoke Workforce Case Manager

A quorum was present.

Paul Paradzinski welcomed the council to the Franklin County Workforce Consortium and noted that a job fair, organized by the Franklin County Workforce Consortium, was being held across the street at Franklin County High School and everyone was welcome to tour the fair after the meeting.

III. Approval of Consent Agenda

Ms. Woodward moved to accept the consent agenda (Minutes from the April 12, 2007 meeting). **Ms. Anthony** seconded. The motion was passed on a voice vote.

IV. Reports

1. **Youth Programs:** **Ms. Anthony** reported

- 50 companies are attending the job fair today at Franklin County High School. The fair is open to youth from 10 a.m. until noon and to the public from 2 p.m. until 6 p.m.
- This summer Goodwill will offer a remedial math and reading class two days a week starting June 18; students in the program will work the remaining three days of the week.
- In April, Goodwill held a work readiness program; the 20 attendees also had the opportunity to job shadow in various occupations.
- Goodwill's grant writer has received a call back on a grant application pertaining to the reality store Goodwill plans to open.

2. **WDB Board Update:** Ms. Vest reported on the following:

- **Area Realignment:** Realignment of local workforce areas is being studied at the state level; the state Workforce Council is expected to make a decision by the end of June. Areas III and VII and part of Area II may be combined. The chairs and directors of the three areas have met to discuss how a merger could be handled, specifically allowing boards and youth councils in to continue current working relationships in those areas.
- **Budget:** The state has not issued final budget appropriations but final amounts are expected to be released by the end of May; Only 20 percent of total funding will be available July 1 until October 1. The board has been working with Goodwill in order to handle the reduced funding.
- **Other Ways to Win:** Sixty counselors from six school systems and around 100 individuals attended the two "Other Ways to Win" presentations by Dr. Ken Gray. There was no media coverage due to the tragic events the previous day at Virginia Tech. The remaining funding received for the event will be used to make packages which will include a taped version of the nightly event, a copy of Dr. Gray's book and a listing of businesses who are willing to talk to students about careers. These packages will be sent to all school guidance counselors in Area III.
- **Board meeting:** The next meeting of the board will be held June 1st at William Fleming High School's Lawson Hall where the culinary program students will be providing the refreshments.

V. Unfinished Business

1. **Project Planning:** Ms. Vest reported that she was unable to provide the 211 youth program listing, from the VA 211 system, as the website has changed and, although it is better for day to day use, it is more difficult to pull sectional informational as you can only open up one locality at a time. The following steps were decided upon as a plan for the youth program fair and youth yellow book creation:
 - a. Ms. Vest will pull, from the 211 system, all the youth program contact information and email it to the council to review for completeness. This list will be used to invite participants to the youth provider professional development fair.
 - b. The youth fair guest list will also be used to create a preliminary yellow page directory of youth programs. After the youth fair, the list will be updated based on additional information gained from participants.
 - c. Two fairs will be held, in the fall of 2007, in October or mid-November: one in the Roanoke/Alleghany area and one in the Franklin County area. Ms. Vest will see which Fridays are available at the Greenfield Center in Botetourt County and the Gereau Center in Franklin County.
 - d. The day of the fair will be scheduled as:
 - 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. - setup
 - 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. - fair/networking
 - 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. – lunch

- e. Ms. Vest will create a planning calendar, for the event, and email it to the council members to sign up for the sections they will participate in. By the end of June, the event plan should be completed with all planning positions filled by the council members.
- f. Fair announcements should go out by the 1st of September to find out how much commitment there will be, for the event, from the invitees.
- g. A space fee of \$20 per youth program provider may be charged to help cover the costs of the event. Ms. Vest will prepare a budget for the event.
- h. The event will be promoted as professional development.
- i. Lunch speakers should be limited to five minutes each and could be from the professional side or from youth who have attended the participant programs. Mr. Mendez noted that he has Job Corp admissions counselors who completed a Job Corp program would be willing to talk about the program. Fair participants should also be encouraged to bring currently participants or those who have completed their program to their booths to talk to those visiting their booth about their experience with a particular youth program.

2. **Incentive Grant:** Funding must be spent by December 31, 2007.

VI. New Business

- 1. **Council Participation:** Ms. Vest reiterated that during past annual monitoring visits, the state noted the lack of a parent of a current or former participant on the council. Ms. Vest offered to speak to any likely candidates identified by council members. Mr. Paradzinski suggested that a council member could possibly help them out by just bringing that person to the meeting with them.

VII. Announcements

The next meeting will be held June 14, 2007. Location to be announced.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Doloris E Vest

Doloris Vest, president

June 1, 2007

Date