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**Western Virginia Workforce  
Development Board**

**Youth Council  
Notes  
July 12, 2005**

**I. Call to Order**

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

**II. Roll Call**

Members present: **Paul Paradzinski**, Chair – Craig County; **Jeri Barnes**, Old Dominion Job Corps Center; Dr. Tom Bryant for **Ron Jones**, TAP Youth Programs; **Becky Johnson**, MeadWestvaco; **Bill Zimmerman**, Diversion Program

Members not present: **Stephen Aukward**, Virginia Department for the Blind and Visually Impaired; **Jodylee Edsall**, Roanoke County Schools; **Xavier Hairston**, Roanoke County Life Skills Mentoring Program; **Russ Merritt**, Franklin County YMCA; **Jennifer Unroe**, 4-H Youth Development; **Marion Vaughn-Howard**, Roanoke Department of Park and Recreation Youth Services Division; **Harriet Woodward**, Alleghany/Covington Department of Social Services;

Guests present: **Wanda Anthony**, Goodwill Industries of the Valleys/Youth services

Staff present: **Anne Cooney**, administrative assistant

**III. Approval of Minutes:**

Since there was no quorum present, approval of the June 14, 2005 minutes was deferred to the next meeting.

**IV. Reports**

**Goodwill Industries of the Valleys:** Wanda Anthony reported the following:

207 program participants to date served, including the clients rolled over from TAP, less those TAP participants who recently graduated.

Summer program is full, money-wise and time-wise:

- 29 younger youth, 3 older in the program
- 26 are working and 2 are on their own, for a total of 28.
- Villages of Lincoln: 8 participants working, with 3 pending
- Rocky Mount: 33 on board, with 26 working
- Covington: approx. 20 participants in the class + summer employment program (typically ½ day in school, ½ day at work).

Participants are working at a variety of businesses, among them: Sleep Inn, Angels of Assisi, Marshall's, Goodwill stores in Hollins and Salem, Apple Ridge Camp, Dollar Duz It, Roanoke Library, and two day-care centers (Rainbow and Honey Tree). There is a job shadower for one participant who works at Angels of Assisi 15 hours a week.

**TAP (Total Action Against Poverty):** Dr. Tom Bryant reported in Ron Jones' absence. TAP has made the transition of its youth program to Goodwill. TAP contacted employers and participants, made certain records are in order, and transferred the files to Goodwill. Dr. Bryant spoke briefly about TAP's Graduation Commencement Exercises and Awards Program on June 10<sup>th</sup>, saying it was inspirational. Over 80 participants received their GEDs, 45 students completed the Project Discovery program, and several participants received their Center for Employment Training (CET) program certificates. Among those addressing the graduates was Roanoke City's new school superintendent, Marvin Thompson.

**V. Staff Report**

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Ms. Vest was unable to attend today's meeting and will update the Committee on staff information next month.

**VI. Unfinished Business**

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There was no discussion of the RFP process at this meeting. Such discussion will be postponed until the next Committee meeting.

**VII. New Business**

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**Discussion: "Youth Risk Behavior Survey Results/Alleghany County Public Schools":**

Prior to today's meeting, Youth Council members were mailed a copy of the above-noted results. Mr. Paradzinski asked everyone how the Council can capitalize on these survey results. Ensuing discussion included a "yellow pages"/directory of services and contacts for youth case workers and managers and a seminar for youth and their parents. Mr. Paradzinski asked all members to consider what might be the best seminars the Council could set up. These ideas will be discussed again at the next Council meeting. (An informal bullet-point list is attached to these minutes as an addendum.)

**VIII. Announcements**

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Next meeting: Tuesday, ~~August 9~~, 9 a.m., at the Roanoke Higher Education Center, Room 810.

8/4/05 Update: Meeting date has been changed to **TUESDAY, AUGUST 16<sup>TH</sup>**.

**IX. Adjournment**

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The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Anne M. Cooney

Anne M. Cooney, administrative assistant

08/04/05

Date

Addendum: Brainstorming Notes

**Note from the Chair (7/28/05):**

- 2004 Goal: Year of the Youth?
- 2005 Goal: Bring in your ideas
- Suggest new people to work on these two goals with us

**BRAINSTORMING NOTES:**

- Wanda A → parents' awareness of what youths are involved with:
  - Parents doing it with them
  - Parents working too much
  - Parents not wanting to know
  - Parents who don't know what to do
  
  - Getting everyone together -- need incentives to come together
  - Fear of jail/pull of money – truly ARE incentives
  - Face-to-face important
  - Open to ALL parents
  - What about using non-public TV to get word out?
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- Paul P: -> Yellow Pages to get to the parents
- Becky J: Maybe write a grant to establish an EAP-like set-up (similar to one at MeadWestvaco)
- In-home family counseling, and mentoring for kids (Tom B: For CET at TAP, successfully placed alumni serve as mentors)
- Mentoring is expensive
- Colleges as resource, toward degree
- Paul P: could we be a connector between colleges and kids?
- Working as mentors: High-school kids to look after lower-school kids
- Look to LOCAL CHURCHES for what youth programs they have
- Contact center for mentoring
- Bill Z: idea from his area → the "Cool Club," run by Pete & Wanda Moore
- Jeri B: Get grassroots talk going and Youth Council be instigator
- Social Services does not have enough training and support
  
- 4-H has a "Character Counts" program – Jennifer Unroe familiar with it – Paul to contact Jennifer and ask her to keep August 9/morning open so she can attend Council and tell the members about this program.
- Also, Jennifer is on extension council in Allegheny County; ask her for ideas they have.
- Becky J – list 4-H groups, Bible Schools → discussion is back to Yellow Pages idea, which seems a winner
- Seminars: what types of programs? Of incentives? Who can Council get to help?

File with minutes: **Youth Risk Behavior Survey Results/Allegheny County Public Schools**

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