

Youth Council/Forum

Roanoke Higher Education Center, Roanoke, VA
Thursday, August 9 2007

Minutes

A. Call to Order

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

B. Roll Call

Sherry Dean called the roll. Members present:

Paul Paradzinski, Craig County
Wanda Anthony, Goodwill Industries of the Valleys Youth Program
Lisa Meek, Old Dominion Job Corp
Barbara Humphreys, Franklin County Schools
Earl Dodrill, Dabney S. Lancaster Community College
Kim Moore, Disability Program Navigator

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
Harriet Woodward, Alleghany/Covington Department of Social Services
Bill Zimmerman, Diversion Program
Jodylee Edsall, Roanoke County Schools
Michele Wells, VA Department of Rehabilitative Services
Laura Elliott, Junior Achievement
Cindy Goldstein, Roanoke City Schools

Staff present:

Doloris Vest, president
Sherry Dean, accountant

Visitors present:

Sandra King, Council of Community Service
John Mastroianni, Job Corp

A quorum was present.

Ms. Meek reported that her Job Corp position would be relocated to Roanoke but that she would not be relocating to Roanoke. Ms. Meek introduced **Mr. Mastroianni** who will be taking over her job duties until the Roanoke position is filled. Mr. Mastroianni noted that he serves on the Area VII workforce board and that Job Corp has taken a one year lease on an office site in Roanoke.

Ms. Vest noted that the Roanoke One-Stop will possibly be relocating to the old Goody's store site and it would be great to have the Job Corp as a partner in that facility.

Mr. Paradzinski gave an overview of how the Area III youth council functions as WIA administrator to multiple barrier youth but has also set in motion, with past and current projects, to work for all youth no matter their status.

C. Approval of Consent Agenda

Mr. Dodrill moved to accept the consent agenda (Minutes from the June 14, 2007 meeting). Ms. Anthony seconded. The motion was passed on a voice vote.

D. Reports

1. **Youth Programs:** Ms. Anthony reported, as of the end of July, there are 80 younger and 23 older youth enrolled with a plan of 63 and 15 respectively. Ms. Anthony presented examples of book bags filled with school supplies, that were given to all youth, and hygiene bags, that were given to all Work Readiness class participants, in the WIA programs. Ms. Anthony also displayed examples of T-shirts, hoodies and trophies that were given out to program participants for this past year.

Motivational speaker Chris Skinner will be speaking to youth on August 16 at 11 a.m., at the Franklin County Parks and Recreation Center, on the car accident that left him a paraplegic. Skinner has also written a book about his experience and a copy of that book was on display as well.

Ferrum College held a seminar on handling personal finances and 25 program participants attended that event.

The youth program is currently searching for mentors for program participants and is hoping Ferrum College or CSEP may be able to help.

Ms. Anthony also reported on a program participant who had been suspended indefinitely from school, for calling in a bomb threat, and, after participating in the WIA program, a judge allowed her to return to school where she passed her GED one month later. Ms. Anthony currently has this participant set up to start college in the spring of 2008.

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

- **Realignment:** At a July meeting Danny LaBlanc, senior advisor to the governor for workforce, announced that the state was not going to force area mergers but instead a group of board chairs and directors would provide recommendations for regional alliances. Area III will be meeting with Area II to see what collaborations can be made for the future. Clay Stein, program monitor, is currently being shared by Area III and I, an indication areas in which these two WIBs work together. Areas III and II may work together to apply for a federal WIRED grant which requires the cooperation of the WIBs, economic development partnerships and community colleges. In addition the WIB is looking into not only being a federally funded organization but seeking out local support and the economic development partnership, per Rob Ledger, is going through changes in order to work more closely with workforce investment.
- **Franklin Center Opening:** The grand opening will be Monday at 1:30 pm and on Tuesday Governor Kaine will be visiting the center.
- **October Board Meeting:** Will be held at the new Franklin Center.
- **New Program Operator Computer System:** Will have a public component that operates like monster.com whereby companies can advertise job opportunities and individuals can post resumes.
- **Workforce Center Open Houses:** Each center will host an open house this fall; The Franklin Center is next week as part of its grand opening. The Roanoke center's will be Thursday, October 4 and plans are being made to determine how to attract youth to this event.
- **CareerScope Software:** It is planned to purchase an upgrade to the centers' CareerScope software.
- **Workforce Development Professional Certification:** There are two certifications: one which focuses on working with individuals and one that focuses on working with businesses. In Area III, three partner employees participated in the pilot program whereby they completed and passed the 90 day program in only 45 days. The training

is free, paid for by the state, until October 2008. Any partner agency staff are eligible for this training and more will be offered.

E. Unfinished Business

1. **Youth Program Provider Professional Development Summit:** The following items were decided upon:
 - Locality team leaders are **Ms. Humphreys** for Franklin County, **Mr. Dodrill** for Alleghany County and **Ms. Wells and Ms. Goldstein** for the Roanoke area.
 - Events will be held in early November
 - Ms. Vest to get locations settled
 - Ms. Vest to devise budget
 - Ms. Vest to conference call in a few weeks with team leaders to see where plans are

Ms. Vest also noted that these events can be carried out differently, in each locality, depending on the locality need.

2. **Yellow Pages Project:** **Ms. King** noted that 211 VA can generate special youth directory from their already existing database.

F. New Business

1. **Future Meeting Time:** It was agreed to meet the 4th Tuesday of each month.

G. Announcements

The next meeting will be held September 25, 2007 at 9 a.m.

H. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Doloris E Vest

Doloris Vest, president

Date