

**Western Virginia Workforce
Development Board**

**Youth Council
Minutes
September 13, 2005**

DRAFT

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; **Jeri Barnes**, Old Dominion Job Corps Center; **Jodylee Edsall**, Roanoke County Schools; **Ron Jones**, Roanoke; **Harriet Woodward**, Alleghany/ Covington Department of Social Services; **Michele Wells**, Virginia Department of Rehabilitative Services; **Bill Zimmerman**, Diversion Program

Members not present: **Becky Johnson**, MeadWestvaco; **Russ Merritt**, Franklin County YMCA; **Jennifer Unroe**, 4-H Youth Development; **Marion Vaughn-Howard**, Roanoke Department of Park and Recreation Youth Services Division

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

Guests: **Wanda Anthony**, Goodwill Industries of the Valleys WIA Youth Program; **Laura Elliott**, Junior Achievement, Roanoke; **Don Woodward**, Alleghany County Schools

A quorum was present.

III. Approval of Minutes

Harriet Woodward moved that the minutes of the August 16, 2005, Council meeting be approved; Ron Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Presentation

Laura Elliott, educational marketing manager for Junior Achievement of Southwest Virginia, described JA programs and their fit with Youth Council objectives:

- (1) JA Success Skills stresses interpersonal skills training, learning to build rapport, working as a team member, appropriate ways to deal with conflict, dressing appropriately, expectations on the job (mock interviews).
- (2) JA Company Program: Participants work with business mentors on a free enterprise project: they invent a product, sell stock, do mock market research, etc., following a business from inception to end-product.
- (3) Economics for Success: Middle-grade students examine personal finance, use and abuse of credit, being realistic about what money can do, how to use a budget, using personal interests to find work, equating financial success with career success.

Ms. Elliott encouraged youth providers to consider JA programs as a resource.

V. Reports

- Wanda Anthony of **Goodwill Industries of the Valleys** reported on the Youth program:
 - 134 participants in Younger Youth programs to date; 123 active.
 - 20 participants active in Older Youth.
 - 87 youth were in summer employment or academic enrichment this summer.
 - Over 30 worksites participated this summer.

Transportation continues to be an issue, especially in Franklin County. Goodwill focused on finding jobs within walking distance of participants' homes or at their schools. Bus passes are used extensively in Roanoke.

- **WDB Board Update (Doloris Vest)**
 - A. The Request for Proposals has been released. Deadline for submissions is Friday, 10/21/05, 4 p.m. Following a WDB staff check for completeness, the RFP Committee will score the proposals. The Youth Council will be asked for comments. The WDB Board of Directors will consider committee recommendations at its December meeting. Rapid action is needed due to:
 - Youth funding available April 1 to begin summer programs.
 - All contractors will need training on a new state-wide computer system that will replace VWN.
 - both the state and the federal government are planning new performance standards.
 - B. The Chief Elected Officials (CLEO) Consortium will meet with the WDB Board of Directors for an information session this afternoon, to review the roles of the CLEO, the Board, and the WDB staff.

VI. Unfinished Business

Alleghany Career Brunch. Don Woodward with Alleghany High School discussed last May's event, a joint venture between The Highlands' Kiwanis Club and Alleghany High School. The Career Brunch, funded by the Board of Education and prepared by the Jackson River Technical Center food preparation classes, brought together at-risk students and area business people for career exploration.

Mr. Paradzinski called for a committee to determine how the Youth Council can take the Career Brunch experience and expand on it. Committee members Harriet Woodward, Laura Elliott, Bill Zimmerman, Jodylee Edsall, and Jeri Barnes will meet at 10 a.m. Oct. 6 in Low Moor.

VII. Announcements

Mr. Paradzinski asked Council members aware of programs similar to Junior Achievement's to bring those to the October 11th Youth Council meeting next time.

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

Anne M. Cooney

Anne M. Cooney, administrative assistant

9/15/05

Date