

**Youth Council  
Tuesday, January 16, 2007**

**Minutes**

**I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Youth Council chair Paul Paradzinski called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members present: **Paul Paradzinski**, chair, Craig County; **Harriet Woodward**, Alleghaney/Covington Department of Social Services, **Jodylee Edsall**, Roanoke County Schools; **Michele Wells**, VA Department of Rehabilitation Services; **Wanda Anthony**, Goodwill Industries of the Valleys WIA Youth Program; **Laura Elliott**, Junior Achievement, Roanoke; **Cindy Goldstein**, Roanoke City Schools; **Bill Zimmerman**, Diversion Program; **Lisa Meek**, Old Dominion Job Corp;

Members absent: **Jennifer Unroe**, 4-H Youth Development; **Ron Jones**, Tap This Valley Works; **Marion Vaughn-Howard**, Roanoke Department of Park and Recreation Youth Services Division; **Barbara Humphreys**; Franklin County Schools;

Staff present: **Doloris Vest**, president; **Sherry Dean**, accountant;

Visitors present: **Melanie Younger**, Workforce Center Consortium, **Raymond Cousins**, VEC\_WIA Division; **Tom Deane**, 23<sup>rd</sup> Court Services Unit; **Rodney Hubbard**, 23A Court Services Unit; **Samantha Higgins**, 25<sup>th</sup> Court Services Unit

A quorum was present.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

**Bill Zimmerman** moved that the minutes from the December 14, 2006 meeting be approved. **Ms. Edsall** seconded the motion. The motion was passed on a voice vote.

**III. Program: Youth Regional Forum Meeting**

**A. Review of the Youth Regional Forum Organizational Meeting in November:** Ms. Vest reviewed the state-sponsored meeting hosted by Mr. Cousins to facilitate Workforce Development Board's initiating the creation of regional **Youth Forums**. Area III had decided to host the first meeting of the Youth Forum along with the January 2007 Youth Council meeting because of the similarities and objectives between members of each group. Mr. Cousins reiterated that the newly created youth forum was intended to be a gathering of youth practitioners to discuss all possible sources of services to all youth needing assistance with education, living expenses, and guidance which was beyond the scope of WIA and the youth council. Mr. Paradzinski noted that the Area III youth council had gone beyond what is required by WIA and has already broadened its scope to include benefits to all youth in the area. Ms. Wells pointed out that the youth council is already a group of practitioners meeting to share ideas and ways and means to serve youth in a variety of programs and settings.

**B. Goals and Objectives:** To have a combined meeting of the Youth Council and Youth Forum to allow members to learn about what the Youth Council does and afterwards allow the youth forum members to have breakout discussion sessions between those practitioners needing to share and exchange information. Mr. Cousins noted that the packet he handed out at the state meeting, contained an outline of meeting format for the youth forum.

**C. Specific Projects:**

1. To identify all practitioners (case managers, teachers, guidance counselors, court personnel, etc.) who should be included in the next youth forum meeting. Ms. Vest will contact those who were invited to this meeting and find out why they could not attend and send out invitations to the second meeting to be held.
2. Have presentations at the youth forum meeting from different groups on what services they provide and "best practices" they have used in the past.
3. Allow time for practitioners to network with others to find solutions for youth needs.
4. Have meetings at various locations in order to facilitate bringing others from each group into the discussions.

**D. Timeline & Next Forum Meeting:** Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup> Michelle Wells will host the next youth council/forum meeting at the Virginia Department of Rehabilitative Services on Brambleton Avenue in Roanoke. Ms. Vest suggested, as an agenda item each representative give a five-minute presentation on their organization and area of expertise.

**IV. Reports**

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

- A. The Workforce Development Board will exhibit at the TAP Job Fair in April.
- B. Ms. Vest will recommend to the board that the youth council be awarded 20% or \$10,000 of the incentive grant funds.
- C. There will be some federal WIA rule changes coming out based on DOL law interpretations that will be discussed at the next youth council meeting.
- D. The next meeting of the Other Way's To Win speaker committee will be February 29<sup>th</sup> at the Workforce Center. Kenneth Gray, author of the book Other Ways To Win is being brought to Roanoke by the VEC, Workforce Board and many other partners to discuss with students, parents, teachers, and guidance counselors career alternatives not requiring a four-year degree as well as the need for skilled technical workers.
- E. Fincastle Baptist Church has opened a free health clinic. The clinic is open each Tuesday evening.
- F. The state's strategic plan included recommendations that local workforce areas blend and final recommendations will be made in June 2007. It is recommended area boards send letters to explain reasons for not blending.

**V. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:53 a.m.

Doloris E. Vest

Doloris Vest, president

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Date