

MINUTES
*workforce***CONNECTIONS**
YOUTH COUNCIL
Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Members Present

Ken LoBene, Chair
Chanda Cook
Dan Rose
Sonja Holloway
Matthew Weinman

Members Absent

Sergeant Mark Sharp
LaShae Thomas
Eloiza Martinez, Vice Chair

Staff Present

John Ball, Executive Director
Rosie Boulware
Jenaya Butler
Kelly Henwood

Suzanne Potter
Tameca Ulmer
Wendy Villanueva

Others Present

Stacy Smith, Director-Nye County Communities Coalition
Loyd Platson, WIA Program Coordinator-Nye County Communities Coalition
Students, Meagan and Melinda, participants Nye County Communities Coalition
Asha Jones, Nevada Partners
Karl Rostrom, HELP of Southern Nevada
Tiffany Tyler, Nevada Partners
Denise Gee, HELP of Southern Nevada
Matt Hirsch, United Way
Odalys Carmona
Dana Wiggins

(It should be noted that all attendees may not be listed above).

Agenda Item 1 - Call To Order, confirmation of posting, roll call. The meeting was called to order by Mr. LoBene at 11:36 a.m. Staff confirmed the meeting had been properly noted and posted in accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

Agenda Item 2 - Approval of agenda with inclusions of any emergency items and deletion of any items.

Motion was made to approve the agenda as presented by Dan Rose and seconded by Chanda Cook. The motion carried.

Agenda Item 3 - Approval of Youth Council meeting Minutes of September 9, 2009.

Motion was made to approve the minutes as presented by Matthew Weinman and seconded by Dan Rose. The motion carried.

Agenda Item 4 – PRESENTATION: Nye County Communities Coalition

Stacy Smith conducted a PowerPoint presentation, and discussed the differences with Clark and Nye counties as it relates to collecting and defining the information through the Clark County Mapping Project. Discussed youth demographics, areas of concern and what needs and services will be best served when funds are granted. Currently, student data is reliant upon the 2007 survey; 2009 student survey was done this past April and will be released soon.

Mr. Loyd Platson described the youth programs, activities, and results. Participants, Melinda and Meagan, shared their personal experiences with the program.

Agenda Item 5 – PRESENTATION: ARRA Summer Data:

Kelly Henwood distributed information packets with summarized information of the Summer Youth Programs, pertaining to contractors, youth, and regions served. Requested suggestions for how the information can be used by other community groups or in other programs, such as Project 5000 Kids campaign, or in any other programs promoting the summer stimulus program. Funds were allocated to Lincoln County; however, they were not able to execute a contract with *workforce*CONNECTIONS.

Approaching contract closeouts, a request was made for contractors to validate their data for the information to be passed on to DOL regarding activities and demographics, for accurate reporting of information for those served in the program.

A summary discussion of individual contractors' service information and demographics ensued with comments on particular issues; i.e. lack of daycare for the pregnant/parenting youth, due to lack of funding and lack of awareness of the need. There is a plan to bring a condensed version of this information to the *workforce*CONNECTIONS Board meeting or any other organizations suggested.

Chanda Cook gave a brief overview of the education data information which was distributed. Issue of poor attendance by students, and its affect was discussed.

Agenda Item 6 – INFORMATION: ARRA Financial Report

Kelly Henwood provided an update of where the summer youth provider contracts are versus actual in relation to the stimulus expenditures. Contract dollars are at 75% spent out; overall we are at a 62% spent out, based on what we invoice the State for our allocation. Chair Ken LoBene asked for possible suggestions on how we might utilize the balance of dollars for discussion at the next meeting. The one item not reflected in the report is the \$600,000 approved at the last meeting for the extended work experience programs for older youth.

Agenda Item 7 – DISCUSSION: Update on Project 5000 Kids

Mr. LoBene discussed the presentation that he and Ms Henwood made to the North Las Vegas City Council last week. Presentation was accepted favorably and they voted unanimously to participate in the Program. Copies of the presentation were distributed. This was the first formal presentation made to the Council; however, informal presentations have been made to each of the municipalities. Two letters were sent out this week: MGM and Venetian, to see if they can make a presentation, anticipating to gain a champion from the Strip to get involved in this project. A meeting is planned with the Superintendent of Schools to enlist their participation. Matthew Weinman suggested making presentations to the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. LoBene stated, "Ultimately, we will expand this to serve 5000 kids every summer, as well as build up a fund that will help us keep the same type of involvement that we have with our service providers".

Mr. LoBene discussed the need to consider other issues such as transportation, providing appropriate clothing for the workplace, health care, and homelessness.

(Mr. LoBene had to leave, Chair turned over to Mr. Weinman).

Agenda Item 8 – ACTION: *Chandra Cook moved to approve a no-cost extension for the Governor’s Reserve funded for Boulder City ARRA Summer Youth Contract from October 1, 2009 through March 31, 2010. Matthew Weinman seconded, and the motion carried.*

Tameca Ulmer stated that Boulder City received Governor’s Reserve funding with approximately \$70,000 remaining. Therefore staff is requesting an extension so they continue their work.

Agenda Item 9 – INFORMATION: Results of Summer ARRA Contract Extensions.

Ms. Henwood discussed last month’s approved contract extensions as per the summary of negotiations shown on pages 14-15 of the meeting packet. Several no cost extensions were given. Within the next month or two, if staff sees additional funds, an option to consider for use of these funds would be for the older out-of-school youth. Desert Rose may not be extended due to some issues with older youth. The school district is not able to fund youth who have already graduated from school.

Agenda Item 10 – INFORMATION: Contractor Update

Asha Jones, Nevada Partners, Inc. (NPI) gave a brief update. The Fellows programming began this fall; classroom size has increased. NPI added a parent component this year, involving the parents in an earlier stage of the process. The Explorers Program, with the Las Vegas Metro Police Department (LVMPD) involvement, gives a more positive experience with law enforcement. The LVMPD has also been willing to work with the youth who do not qualify for the program, due to background check or GED requirements. NPI’s summer program experience has pointed out the need to address the lack of appropriate communication skills in the youth and the need to teach them how to bridge the gaps in speaking with authority figures. The Positive Parenting program is expanding to include both parents and/or family members in order to address the different challenges of parenting and how it relates to educational success. NPI will launch a program, sometime in January, which will give access to childcare as well as some type of training towards working in childcare. NPI launched the Student Ambassador Program which enlists students as leaders to work with youth groups. They will lead programs that *will keep youth engaged* in continuing accomplishments in education.

Karl Rostrom with HELP of Southern Nevada gave a brief status report.

Agenda Item 11 – INFORMATION: Updates from Youth Council Members

None

Agenda Item 12 – Citizen Participation

None

Agenda Item 13– Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:34 PM.

Next scheduled meeting date would be on Veteran’s Day. Therefore, a rescheduled date is needed, which may be on November 18th. Notices will be sent out.