

MINUTES

Youth Council Meeting October 10, 2012 11:00 a.m.

*Workforce*CONNECTIONS
7251 W. Lake Mead Blvd.
Suite 200 Conference Room
Las Vegas, NV 89128

Members Present

Sonja Holloway, Chair	Lt. Jack Owen	Dan Rose	Willie J. Fields
Stavan Corbett	Vida Chan Lin (Phone)		

Members Absent

None

Staff Present

Heather DeSart	Suzanne Potter	Carol Turner	Jim Kostecki
Clentine January	Rick Villalobos	Rosie Boulware	Byron Goynes
Jennifer Padilla	Kimberly Colagioia	Madeline Arazoza	Melody Stok

Others Present

Keith Hosannah, DETR/WISS	Dr. Tiffany Tyler, Nevada Partners, Inc.
Dr. Byron Green, Clark County School District	Donna Bensing, New Horizons CLC
Denise Gee, HELP of Southern Nevada	Helicia Thomas, GNJ Family Life Center

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

1. Call to order, confirmation of posting and roll call:
The meeting was called to order by Chair, Sonja Holloway. Staff confirmed the agenda had been properly noticed and posted in accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law; roll call was taken and a quorum was present.
2. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Approve the agenda with inclusion of any emergency items and deletion of any items
A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented by Willie J. Fields and seconded by Stavan Corbett. Motion carried.
3. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION
None
4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Approve the Youth Council Meeting Minutes of September 12, 2012
A motion was made to approve the Youth Council Meeting Minutes of September 12, 2012 as presented by Stavan Corbett and seconded by Willie J. Fields. Motion carried.
5. INFORMATION: Welcome New Youth Council Member
Lt. Jack Owen from Las Vegas Metro Police Department was welcomed to the Youth Council.

6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Approve staff's recommendation to publish a Request for Proposals (RFP) in an amount not to exceed \$500,000 to provide workforce, education and training services for transitioning foster youth and/or youth with disabilities

Ricardo Villalobos, Workforce Connections staff provided a brief overview of the RFP for foster youth and youth with disabilities. He noted that under the WIA reauthorization regarding youth, there will be an emphasis placed on serving foster youth and disabled youth; therefore, targeting these significantly underserved populations will put Workforce Connections ahead of the game.

Heather DeSart, Deputy Director commented that staff is specifically and strategically not going to dictate the amount of funding that will go to serve each population or how many providers will be selected. For example, more funds may go toward serving foster youth than disabled youth depending on the proposals and amounts requested. This will be an open competitive process to solicit innovative proposals in whatever amounts the respondents propose. A team of evaluators will be established to determine the best way for the funds to be awarded. The scope of work included in the RFP will provide a basic guideline for required program components.

Rosie Boulware, Workforce Connections staff stated that Congress has mandated that WIA funds are leveraged with other programs that serve these youth populations. The focus is on successfully transitioning these youth into society, the workforce and/or post-secondary education. Discussion ensued.

Stephan Corbett requested staff to provide monthly feedback regarding the progression of the RFP process.

Ms. DeSart confirmed that staff will be 100% transparent in the process and provide regular status updates and staff may call on Youth Council members for assistance in identifying qualified evaluators that have insight or expertise serving these populations. Evaluator cannot have a conflict of interest with potential grant recipients, such as financial gain.

A motion was made to approve staff's recommendation to publish a Request for Proposals (RFP) in an amount not to exceed \$500,000 to provide workforce, education and training services for transitioning foster youth and/or youth with disabilities by Stavan Corbett and seconded by Dan Rose. Motion carried.

7. DISUCSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Approve staff's recommendation to execute a no cost extension for Nevada partners, Inc. (NPI) PY2011 contract through June 30, 2013

Mr. Villalobos reiterated that this is a no-cost extension and no funds are being requested. Extending the contract deadline will allow Nevada Partners, Inc. (NPI) to expend the remainder of their funds and ensure the continuity of services to participants as well as provide NPI additional time to meet performance. The program dates are October 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013.

A motion was made to approve staff's recommendation to execute a no cost extension for Nevada Partners, Inc. (NPI) PY2011 contract through June 30, 2013 by Stavan Corbett and seconded by Vida Chan Lin. Motion carried.

8. INFORMATION: Youth Build Las Vegas Update

Jennifer Padilla, Workforce Connections staff, provided a YouthBuild update. Recently upon completing the YouthBuild challenge, 30 young adults were identified to be a part of the fourth cohort to participate in the YouthBuild Las Vegas program. Two participants, Chris and Jessica, talked about the YouthBuild Challenge and the reasons they decided to join the program.

9. INFORMATION: Summer Component/Year-Round Educational Expenditure Report – Monthly Update

As per the request of the Board, monthly updates for the Summer Component/Year-Round Programs are being provided for Latin Chamber of Commerce, Nevada Partners and Southern Nevada Children First. These reports are provided in the agenda packet on page 19 through 21.

Ms. DeSart commented that it is the priority of staff to keep the Youth Council informed and apprised of all things going on to remain as transparent as possible as well as to encourage the support of the Youth Council in the work that staff does. Ms. DeSart encouraged the Youth Council members to provide input, make suggestions and express any ideas they have to staff.

10. INFORMATION: Youth Funding Plan – September 2012

Carol Turner provided an overview of the Youth Funding Plan for September 2012. This report forecasts expenditures over the next four quarters. The report is provided on page 23 of the agenda packet.

11. INFORMATION: Awards & Expenditures Report – September 2012

Jim Kostecki, Workforce Connections staff provided an overview of the Awards & Expenditures Report for the WIA Youth Programs (Year-Round, Rural and Tri-County, Re-Entry). The report has been revised to include contract dates. The report is provided on page 25 of the agenda packet.

Sonja Holloway noted that the Latin Chamber of Commerce PY11 Green Consortium contract is underspent and asked staff to provide an update at the next meeting.

Mr. Kostecki reported that this collaboration with Latin Chamber and Housing Authority started in 2011 and initially, it took some time to establish the consortium; approximately eight or nine months. There is still one year remaining on the contract, which will allow them additional time to spend the remaining balance on their contract. Staff hopes to see significant spending by the end of September and will stay on top of the matter. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Holloway asked for an update on HELP's contract expenditures at next month's meeting.

12. INFORMATION: Youth Department Director's Report

Mr. Villalobos reiterated earlier comments made by Ms. DeSart's about the importance of transparency with regard to information requested and provided to the Youth Council to ensure the Youth Council is well informed to make important decisions as well as provide key information to the Board when asked.

Alluding to a discussion at the recent Board meeting, Mr. Villalobos said he could have provided clarity and perspective had he been given the opportunity to do so.

Ms. Holloway agreed and stated that she will ensure that staff has the opportunity to provide their perspective and address comments that are made at future Board meetings.

Dan Rose stated that with the recent changes at the agency and on the Youth Council there is inevitably going to be some communication barriers and even a lack of trust and until more trust is established, Board members will ask a lot of questions and scrutinize some of the decisions made by the Youth Council.

13. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION:

Denise Gee, HELP of Southern Nevada – Ms. Gee reported that this month is HELP's five-year anniversary of serving WIA programs. HELP started serving homeless youth and still has a priority with this population because of their homeless youth center. This summer HELP provided 150 youth with a work experience opportunity at approximately 30 partner employers. As a result, approximately 17% of the youth received permanent employment. Ms. Gee thanked the Youth Council and staff for the opportunity to serve youth and looks forward to learning, growing and developing in the years to come.

14. Youth Council Member Comments

None

15. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:06 p.m.