

MINUTES
*workforce***CONNECTIONS**
YOUTH COUNCIL
Wednesday, April 14, 2010

Members Present

Chanda Cook
Daniel Rose
Sergeant Mark Sharp
Matthew Weinman
Michael Robertson
Samantha Hurt

Members Absent

Ken LoBene, Chair
Eloiza Martinez, Vice-Chair
Sonja Holloway
Isidro Medina

Staff Present

John Ball, Executive Director
David Jefferson
Sylvia Spencer
Stacey Wedding

Suzanne Potter
Byron Goynes
Andy Anderson
Mike Hopper

Tameca Ulmer
Kelly Henwood
Rosie Boulware
Ricardo Villalobos

Others Present

Karl Rostron, HELP of Southern Nevada	Ron Hilke, DETR
Tiffany Tyler, Nevada Partners, Inc.	Donna Romo, DETR
Semaj White, GNJ Family Life Center	Lisa Popovsky, AHEC
Otto Merida, Latin Chamber of Commerce	

(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 Ken LoBene at 11:09 a.m. Staff confirmed the meeting had been properly noticed 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 with inclusion by Sergeant Mark Sharp and seconded by Matthew Weinman. Inclusion: Item 4a Attached Matrix of Tier I and Tier II Contractors. The motion carried.

Agenda Item 3 - Approval of Youth Council meeting Minutes of February 10, 2010.

Motion was made to approve the minutes of March 10, 2010 as presented by Sergeant Mark Sharp and seconded by Matthew Weinman. The motion carried.

Agenda Item 4a – DISCUSSION and POSSIBLE ACTION: Accept the recommendation to execute contracts with Tier I and Tier II contractors, with ARRA carry-in and/or Governor’s Reserve funding. Any resulting contracts will be based on approval of Governor’s Reserve funding, ARRA funding availability, and successful contract negotiation.

Sylvia Spencer provided an overview of the summer contracts funding recommendations to include the recommended Tier I and Tier II contractors and amounts (see attached matrix). If funding is less than anticipated, staff will work with contractors to establish a minimum threshold to run an effective summer program. The actual funding amounts are not to exceed the amount as listed on the attached matrix.

Contract execution is contingent upon funding. Approximately \$200,000 has been confirmed and identified as ARRA “carry-in” funds and *workforce*CONNECTIONS submitted a \$1.4M request for Governor’s Reserve funding, which will go before the State Governor’s Youth Council on Friday, April 16, 2010 and the Budget Committee on Monday, April 19, 2010. Discussion ensued.

A motion to approve the recommendation to execute contracts with Tier I and Tier II contractors not to exceed amounts listed on the attached matrix with ARRA carry-in and/or Governor’s Reserve funding was made with Chair’s approval by Dan Rose and seconded by Matthew Weinman. Sergeant Mark Sharp Abstained. The motion carried. Following the meeting, Chair LoBene concurred with the Youth Council’s motion to approve.

Agenda Item 4b – DISCUSSION and POSSIBLE ACTION: Accept the recommendation to execute contracts with the Summer Business Institute for \$380,000 and Junior Achievement for \$48,000 pending the allocation of Governor’s Reserve funding.

Sylvia Spencer provided background on both requests: Summer Business Institute will serve 150 youth with work experiences, community service projects, and mentoring services; Junior Achievement will provide 500 youth with job shadows, short-term experiential career-based opportunities. Both projects are under the umbrella of *Project 5000 Kids: Work+HAPPENS*.

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A motion was made to approve the recommendation to execute contracts with the Summer Business Institute, not to exceed \$380,000 and Junior Achievement, not to exceed \$48,000 pending the allocation of Governor’s Reserve funding by Sergeant Mark Sharp and seconded by Michael Robertson. The motion carried.

Agenda Item 4c – DISCUSSION and POSSIBLE ACTION: Accept the correction to Summer Contract Recommendations for Nye Communities.

Sylvia Spencer provided background and read aloud to the Youth Council, a letter of apology addressed to Stacy Smith, Director, Nye Communities Coalition, for the error that staff made regarding the recommendations for Summer 2010 funding. Nye Communities Coalition was listed as a Tier II contractor due to certain issues with their program, when in fact, these issues were resolved. Furthermore, Nye is a year-round contractor and no year-round contractors were categorized for Tier I funding because it is ARRA, which allows for “summer only” programs. As a result, Nye Communities Coalition’s category was changed from Tier III to Tier II for the summer contract recommendations.

A motion was made to accept the correction to summer contract recommendations for Nye Communities Coalition by Matthew Weinman and seconded by Dan Rose. The motion carried.

Agenda Item 4d – DISCUSSION and POSSIBLE ACTION - Accept the Memorandum of Understanding between the Clark County Department of Family Services, Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority, Olive Crest, United Way of Southern Nevada, and *workforce*CONNECTIONS for the Workforce Services for Transitioning Foster Youth Pilot Program.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was made and entered into by Clark County Department of Family Services (DFS), Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority, Olive Crest (Service Provider), United Way of Southern Nevada, and *workforce*CONNECTIONS to define each entity’s role in coordinating activities and cooperative efforts in the Workforce Services for Transitioning Foster Youth Pilot program. Discussion ensued.

The Youth Council acknowledged the MOU; however, no action was necessary.

Agenda Item 5 – DISCUSSION – *Project 5000 Kids: Work+HAPPENS* Expo Event Recap

Byron Goynes provided an update on the *Project 5000 Kids: Work+HAPPENS* event held on April 8, 2010 at the Historic 5th Street School. The event was a kick-off for the Project 5000 Kids initiative to increase the graduation rate by providing youth work experience, job shadow, mentoring opportunities. Mr. Goynes said the event was successful. Over 200 guests attended representing various business sectors in the community as well

as many of the Youth Service Providers and representatives from the Clark County School District and Las Vegas Chamber.

Fafie Moore, Owner, Realty Executives-Nevada announced guest speakers: Ken LoBene, *workforce*CONNECTIONS' Youth Council Chair, Joe Marra, Meadows High School student and intern at the Las Vegas Chamber, Jasmine Edwards, The Shade Tree, and Special Guest Speaker, Dr. Neil Smatresk, President of University Nevada Las Vegas.

Agenda Item 6 – UPDATE- AHEC Contract

Sylvia Spencer provided an update regarding Area Health Education Center (AHEC) of Southern Nevada. AHEC was placed on “*high risk*” status due to issues with their Adult and Dislocated Worker (ADW) year-round contract. As a result, the previously approved Youth Sector initiative contract is put on hold for 30 days pending fulfillment of the criteria outlined in AHEC’s corrective action plan. AHEC is receiving coaching and technical assistance to meet these requirements.

On May 12, 2010, *workforce*CONNECTIONS ADW staff will conduct a final review of AHEC’s progress on the action plan and subsequently determine the status of AHEC’s funding. Based on ADW’s determination, the Youth Department staff will present the item for discussion and possible action at the next Youth Council meeting.

Agenda Item 7 – INFORMATION – a. Funding/Development Update

Stacey Wedding provided a Funding/Development update. *workforce*CONNECTIONS' received it's 501(c)(3) letter from the IRS, six months ahead of schedule, and is working with the Nevada Public Education Foundation (NPEF) to partner with for additional fundraising efforts to benefit the Work+HAPPENS initiative. Ms. Wedding expressed thanks to NPEF for their willingness to partner with *workforce*CONNECTIONS' and **Project 5000 Kids: Work+HAPPENS**.

John Ball and Ken LoBene are scheduled to meet with Wells Fargo next week to present a grant opportunity to support approximately 16 interns.

Andy Anderson and Ms. Wedding have compiled a list of potential grant opportunities and detailed funder information which is available upon request.

Andy Anderson reported that *workforce*CONNECTIONS applied for the Federal EPA Brownfield Training Grant and awaits a response.

b. WIA Year-Round Contractor Update

Sylvia Spencer provided an overview of the PY2009 Year-Round Youth Contractor Expenditure Report through April 5, 2010 (page 23 of the agenda) and WIA Formula Youth Report (page 24 of the agenda). HELP, NPI, and Nye Communities Coalition are at approximately 75% total spending. Total youth enrollment is 436 of which 155 or 36% have been placed in an Internship or Work Experience.

c. Youth Outreach and Social Networking Update

Michael Robertson provided a Social Networking update and demonstrated the process for managing the **Project 5000 Kids: Work+HAPPENS** webpage on MySpace, which averages 100 new “friends” per day. Mr. Robertson is in the process of developing similar sites on Facebook and Twitter.

d. Updates from Contractors

Karl Rostron, HELP of Southern Nevada provided a program update: HELP has three youth graduating in May, two Computer Network students and one Medical Assistant. Upon graduation, the Medical Assistant will begin employment at \$15.00/hour and HELP has arranged for her and her three children to move out of the homeless shelter and into an apartment, which will be the first time, she and her children will live in non-communal housing.

HELP will have 20 paid work experiences in May as well as tuition to pay for various occupational training opportunities for youth who have completed their occupational training. Each occurrence will draw down on spending bringing it closer to plan.

Tiffany Tyler, Director, Workforce Development and Education Programs, Nevada Partners, Inc. thanked the Youth Council for the support and resources they provide in making the work happen.

Last week, Nevada Partner's Youth Ambassador Program implemented and hosted a Summer Spring Festival with an Easter focus that reached out to 150 community members. It was exciting to see the youth empowered and grow from this experience.

Nevada Partner's has 136 youth currently enrolled in a work experience and the Las Vegas Valley Water District has agreed to employ 16 youth.

Nevada Partners is thankful for the new Youth data and performance reports and feedback from *workforce*CONNECTIONS' MIS and Youth department.

Semaj White, GNJ Family Life Center provided an update on GNJ's partnership with YouthBuild Las Vegas. The youth are learning construction skills, advanced (geometry and trigonometry), leadership, communication, and presentation skills. Four of the youth have completed the educational component ahead of schedule.

e. Updates from Youth Council Members

Dan Rose announced that the Skills USA Competition will be held at the end of April at Cashmen Center. The event will be sponsored in part by the Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Union.

Michael Robertson expressed his thanks for the employment opportunity at *workforce*CONNECTIONS.

Chanda Cook thanked Kelly Henwood for all that she has done and the leadership and vision she has brought to *workforce*CONNECTIONS. Ms. Henwood will begin a new chapter in her life and if not for Kelly, *workforce*CONNECTIONS would not be where they are today.

Kelly Henwood stated that her employment with *workforce*CONNECTIONS officially ends tomorrow; however, she will remain on contract on a temporary basis to assist with special projects.

Agenda Item 8 - Citizen Participation

Otto Merida, President/CEO, Latin Chamber of Commerce commented on the *Project 5000 Kids: Work+HAPPENS* event held April 8, 2010. Mr. Merida stated that the youth were extremely diligent in their roles as host/hostess and exceptional at promoting themselves for possible employment opportunities.

The Latin Chamber of Commerce is very appreciative of *workforce*CONNECTIONS for supporting their summer youth program in 2009 and welcomes the opportunity to serve additional this summer wherein the Latin Chamber has already lined up 150 work sites for the youth.

Agenda Item 9- Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:47 p.m.

Attachment: Summer Contracts Projected Funding Matrix