

MINUTES
*workforce***CONNECTIONS**
YOUTH COUNCIL
Wednesday, May 12, 2010
11:00 a.m.

Members Present

Ken LoBene, Chair
Eloiza Martinez
Chanda Cook
Daniel Rose
Sergeant Mark Sharp
Michael Robertson
Isidro Medina
Samantha Hurt

Members Absent

Sonja Holloway
Matthew Weinman

Staff Present

John Ball, Executive Director
Sylvia Spencer
Ricardo Villalobos

Suzanne Potter
Byron Goynes
Clentine January

Tameca Ulmer
Nancy White
Carol Hicks

Others Present

Karl Rostron, HELP of Southern Nevada
Tiffany Tyler, Nevada Partners, Inc.
Capucine Holmes, GNJ Family Life Center
Toni Mims, Southern Nevada Children First
Asha Jones, Nevada Public Education Foundation

Ron Hilke, DETR
Rose Yuhos, AHEC
Lisa Popovsky, AHEC
Ursula Christmas, Southern Nevada Children First

(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 11:03 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 as presented by Eloiza Martinez and seconded by Michael Robertson. The motion carried.

Agenda Item 3 - Approval of Youth Council meeting Minutes of April 14, 2010.

Motion was made to approve the minutes of April 14, 2010 with corrections by Sergeant Mark Sharp and seconded by Dan Rose. Correction(s): Agenda Item 1: Call to Order, confirmation of posting, roll call: Chanda Cook called the meeting to order; Agenda Item 7d: Updates from Contractors: Nevada Partner's has 136 youth currently enrolled in a work readiness. The motion carried.

Agenda Item 4 – DISCUSSION and POSSIBLE ACTION: Accept the recommendation to extend the contract with the City of Boulder City for the 2010 Summer Youth Employment Program in an amount not to exceed \$73,708

During the summer of 2009, the City of Boulder City was awarded \$147,646 in Governor's Reserve Funds to support their Summer Youth Employment Program. Due to the program's late start, only \$73,938 of the funds was spent. *workforceCONNECTIONS* staff petitioned the Governor's Workforce Board to permit the City of Boulder City to use the remaining funds in the amount of \$73,708 to support the 2010 Summer Youth Employment Program.

A motion was made to approve the recommendation to extend the contract with the City of Boulder City for the 2010 Summer Youth Employment Program in an amount not to exceed \$73,708 by Eloiza Martinez and seconded by Michael Robertson. Mark Sharp Abstained. The motion carried.

Agenda Item 4a – UPDATE: Area Health Education Center of Southern Nevada, Inc. (AHEC)

Sylvia Spencer provided an update: on February 25, 2010 the *workforceCONNECTIONS* Board of Directors approved a youth contract amendment in the amount of \$300,000 with AHEC for the Healthcare Industry Sector Initiative.

On March 25, 2010 the *workforceCONNECTIONS* Adult and Dislocated Worker program staff recommended that AHEC be placed on *High Risk Status* due to various compliance issues. Further, AHEC was advised that their youth contract amendment would be held for 30 days from this date to allow for the compliance issues to be resolved.

On May 12, 2010, AHEC's award of \$300,000 was officially rescinded due to the issues not being resolved.

A training will be provided and specific technical assistance will be offered to all providers not being recommended for Summer 2010 Program funding.

Agenda Item 4b – UPDATE: Approval of Governor's Reserve Funding *workforceCONNECTIONS* Youth Projects

Tameca Ulmer provided an update: *workforceCONNECTIONS* has been awarded \$1,000,000 in Governor's Reserve funds to support the work+HAPPENS: Project 5000 Kids initiative Junior Achievement of Southern Nevada, Inc., Clark County Summer Business Institute, YouthBuild Las Vegas. These funds, in addition to \$290,500 in ARRA carry over funds, will fund contracts for the following youth service providers for the amounts listed for the 2010 Summer Youth Program as approved at the Board of Director's meeting on April 22, 2010:

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| • Latin Chamber of Commerce | \$200,000 |
| • Lied Discovery Children's Museum | \$75,400 |
| • Spring Mountain Youth Camp | \$180,000 |
| • Police Athletic League of Southern Nevada | \$56,400 |
| • College of Southern Nevada | \$150,000 |
| • HELP of Southern Nevada | \$76,200 |
| • Nevada Partners for a Skilled Workforce | \$242,500 |
| • Nye Communities Coalition | \$130,000 |
| • Clark County School District/Desert Rose | \$140,000 |
| Adult High School and Career Center | |
| • St. Jude's Ranch for Children | \$40,000 |

Junior Achievement of Southern Nevada, Inc. will receive \$48,000 to provide job shadowing services for 500 Southern Nevada youth; Clark County Summer Business Institute will receive \$380,000 to provide work experiences and work readiness training to 150 youth; YouthBuild Las Vegas will receive \$100,000 to provide supplies, wages for work experiences, and support services for its participants.

The total number of youth to be served with the Governor's Reserve and carry-over ARRA funds for the the summer program is 1,577 youth.

Ken LoBene requested that in the future staff should identify number of youth to be served when providing this type of contract information to the Youth Council. Staff concurred.

Agenda Item 5 – DISCUSSION: Project 5000 Kids Next Steps

Nancy White, former Human Resource Manager at the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce was introduced as the new Project Manager for Project 5000 Kids. Ms. White provided a brief background of her work history.

Ms. White provided an update and next steps:

- Project 5000 Kids staff met with the Boys and Girls Club to discuss a partnership to resurrect the dormant "Leaders in Training" program to benefit the work readiness component of the 2010 Summer Youth Program.
- Staff is focusing on outreach to businesses to get them on board to provide work sites and support work experiences; the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce has been helpful in providing business referrals.
- A meeting is scheduled with Mayor Goodman to discuss Project 5000 Kids and the need for his involvement and support that will ultimately send a positive message to the business community.
- A presentation is scheduled for the Clark County School Board on June 24, 2010 and for the Boys and Girls Club Board on June 30, 2010.
- Staff has contacted various payroll companies to discuss options for processing the non-WIA youth's payroll.
- The work+HAPPENS website at is under construction to enhance some of its features.

Ken LoBene announced that the Nevada Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals is donating all of the proceeds from their annual goal tournament to Project 5000 Kids.

Agenda Item 6 – INFORMATION- a. Report: ARRA Extended Work Extension Contracts

Sylvia Spencer provided an ARRA Extended Work Extension Contracts summary: through March 31, 2010, a total of 1,130 youth were served, of which 26% completed a work experience, and 100% received work readiness training.

Ken LoBene reiterated that work experience is part of the process and a meaningful work experience is the only outcome.

Mr. LoBene stated that businesses providing work sites are complaining that they are not able to request the same youth work experiences as last summer. The businesses feel that they have a vested interest in the youth and would like to continue supporting the same youth and watch them grow. Mr. LoBene requested that staff negotiate with the service providers, especially SBI, to accommodate the businesses and allow for the same youth to return to previous work sites as requested by the employer.

Chanda Cook asked if the out-of-school youth were tracked and contacted to possibly reconnect them to education. Ms. Spencer replied no because of the guidelines set forth by ARRA; however, it is possible to track this data in NJCOS. Discussion ensued.

b. 2010 WIA Funding Allocation

Ms. Spencer provided a summary of the 2010 WIA Funding Allocation as shown on page 15 of the agenda – for PY09 Formula Youth Funds, the total allocation is \$2,605,699 and total youth expenditures - contract obligations is \$1,304,131. The PY09 WIA Unallocated Youth Program Funds at 1/1/2010 is \$1,301,568; PY09 WIA Formula Youth Total Unspent Funds at 1/1/2010 – Operations and Program is \$2,018,564.

c. WIA Year Round Contractor Update: PY09 Preliminary Performance Measures Report

Ms. Spencer provided an overview of the PY09 Preliminary Performance Measures Report:

*workforce***CONNECTIONS** exceeded the goal for Youth Literacy and Numeracy Gains – First Year; of 80 participants, 25 participants had Literacy/Numeracy gains for a percentage of 31.3%. Outcomes for Youth Attainment of Degree or Certificate and Youth Placement in Employment or Education are pending (not available, under construction per the report). Discussion ensued.

Ken LoBene requested that staff provide the Youth Council with updated performance rosters at the monthly Youth Council meeting. Staff concurs.

d. Updates from Contractors

Brook Reid, Nevada Partners provided a program update: Nevada Partner's youth department is focusing on youth having a link to employment as well as education. The information is closely tracked and Nevada Partners will provide any reports that the Youth Council may find necessary.

Nevada Partner's would like to collaborate with Project 5000 Kids to ensure they are providing support, including linkage to the city of Las Vegas, with whom they have a strong relationship.

Nevada Partner's is holding an employer in-service training and orientation for employers to learn about the policies and procedures as set forth by the *workforce***CONNECTIONS** Board, the standards for a work experience host site as well as Nevada Partner's expectations of a work experience. The orientation will be held at Nevada Partner's on May 13, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Nevada Partners has 130 youth who will be completing a work readiness training effective June 11, 2010. These youth will be re-engaged with this summer's youth program; however, they are not guaranteed employment.

Ms. Reid suggested that a Project 5000 Kids subcommittee be developed where the youth providers can get involved in the discussions as well as provide a list of their employers and work sites that they already have on board to prevent duplicating efforts.

Karl Rostron, HELP of Southern Nevada provided a program update: HELP is pleased to be a recipient of summer youth funds to serve the rural areas, including Jean, Searchlight, Sandy Valley, and Good Springs, NV. HELP is expanding its year-round program to serve these rural areas as well and expanding its scope to include rural low-income youth.

HELP received confirmation on the specifications of the new 'Green IT' program which will provide one slot for a youth to be certified 'Green IT'. The certification/training process costs approximately \$21,000 of which HELP has negotiated down to a reduced price of \$5,000. The training and certification is extremely valuable and the first of its kind in Nevada.

Rose Yuhos, Executive Director, Area Health Education Center of Southern Nevada, Inc. (AHEC) thanked the Youth Council for the opportunity for AHEC to participate in last year's summer program. AHEC was exemplarily and the program was very successful. Ms. Yuhos stated that it is unfortunate that AHEC will not have the opportunity to implement the youth program again this year because of the difficulties and organizational issues they have with the Adult and Dislocated Worker program. Ms. Yuhos stated that the issues have been or are very close to being resolved. AHEC is looking forward to being back in the funding formula and to educate youth in the high growth industry of healthcare.

This summer AHEC is putting together resources to implement "Health Careers Opportunity Program" which will include a small summer camp for youth. AHEC would welcome any type of collaboration with *workforce***CONNECTIONS** with this program.

Rick Villalobos, Program Manager, YouthBuild provided a program update: the program is at approximately 50% completion and some youth have already completed their GEDs and attained their high school diplomas. All 30 participants are working to achieve their HBI construction certificate, which they can use to market themselves in the workforce. Life skills, work readiness, and college readiness workshops are being held for the

youth as well as planned college visits.

YouthBuild will be implementing a green agenda into the program, pending an approved budget modification from the Department of Labor.

Mr. Villalobos announced that YouthBuild's first program video has been posted on YouTube featuring the youth during roll-call; the video demonstrates the youth's creativity and originality.

e. Updates from Youth Council Members

Chanda Cook stated that Nevada Public Education Foundation (NPEF) received some foundation funding from USA Funds for career awareness and college access for youth. NPEF will partner with Nevada Partner's Youth Ambassadorship program for summer career awareness and outreach to all WIA and non-WIA youth. The program will be designed and implemented by the youth.

Michael Robertson gave a social networking update: MySpace has 515 friends and Facebook and Twitter are up and running.

Samantha Hurt suggested that more child care and parenting classes are implemented for youth to gain experience and earn a work experience credit. Discussion ensued.

Agenda Item 7 - Citizen Participation

None

Agenda Item 9– Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:19 p.m.