

**Youth Council
Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2014**

Chairperson Teresa Strum called the Youth Council meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tera Armstrong, Jim Carlson, Kathy Day, Emlee Dooley, Sally Hanrahan, Linda Hessenberger, Beth Hubbard, Mary Stouffer, Teresa Strum

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ed Bochniak, Kevin Kleckner, Terry Madsen, Jon Mandrell, Jeannette Maurice, Edna McManus

OTHERS PRESENT: Pam Furlan, Jo Ann Johnson

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Tera Armstrong motioned to approve the January 8, 2014 Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Emlee Dooley and carried.

New Business

Discussion of Issues Affecting Youth Today and Possible Projects to Address Them

Pam reminded members that at the last meeting discussion were held regarding issues affecting youth today and possible projects to address them. Pam stated that members agreed to proceed with providing career preparation/life skills program for the Safe School and Nachusa Campus School. She asked if there were any other issues that members thought of for consideration.

Tera Armstrong asked if youth were provided with a brochure that introduced them to programs and services. Pam replied that throughout the 8-county area word of mouth is one of the best resources. She said that if recruitment if needed for a special project or program, staff will visit the schools and provide the information to the students and/or guidance counselors.

Beth Hubbard stated that Whiteside County Regional Office of Education recruits by talking with school counselors, social service agencies, community colleges, etc. She said that the Whiteside County Regional Office of Education does have a brochure that they provide to the schools about the GED program.

Pam stated that the topic will be tabled and available for further discussion in the future. As an example, Pam stated that at the previous meeting, members talked about having an event and invite Ruby Payne as the facilitator.

Beth Hubbard provided information about the Whiteside County Regional Office of Education GED/Welding program. She said that students received credit for participating in the Welding Program at Sauk Valley Community College. Beth told members that 3 students are continuing their education in the Welding Program and 1 student had a job interview this week. Sally Hanrahan stated that the structure is similar to a Boot Camp whereby students are introduced to welding.

Teresa Strum asked about introducing students to the Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program. Kathy Day explained that the former Local Workforce Area #4 did not receive a waiver from the State to fund the CNA program. She said that there may be a possibility to operate a GED/CNA Boot Camp program similar to a Bridge Program that will allow the students to be introduced to the medical field. Teresa stated that nursing programs are increasing the total number of hours and increasing pre-requisites. Members agreed that offering a CNA class in conjunction with GED would be beneficial to students. It was noted that Sauk Valley Community College and Kishwaukee Community College offer CNA classes. Teresa suggested that dialogue continue on this subject.

Review of career preparation/life skills program for the Safe School and Nachusa Campus School

Pam Furlan informed members that she contacted Paula Corbin with Safe School and provided her with the Menu of Services and Presentations. Pam said that she has not heard back from Paula regarding the program choices, but will keep members informed.

Sally Hanrahan told members that she talked with one of the instructors at Nachusa Campus School and provided her with the menu information. Sally said that the instructor was forwarding the information to the Principal who appears to be interested and supportive in the program. However, Sally said she is waiting to hear back from them.

Whiteside County Regional Office of Education Contract Modification(s) Request

Sally Hanrahan informed members that the Whiteside County Regional Office of Education has requested a budget modification to the PY 13 contract. Sally said that they are requesting to transfer \$3,000 from Lee/Ogle Instructor Salary to Advanced Academic Training. She explained that the funds for the Lee/Ogle instructor salary are available since an instructor for this area has not yet been hired. Fifteen students from Lee and Ogle Counties have enrolled in the Education Outreach Program so far this year, Sally said. However, these students are currently attending GED classes at the Wallace site or through Sauk Valley Community College, Kishwaukee College, Highland Community College, or Ogle County Probation. The Whiteside County Regional Office of Education is requesting to transfer \$3,000 to Advanced Academic Training so

they can enroll 8-10 youth in a Welding/GED program at Sauk Valley Community College in March. Sally said that the program was provided last year and was very beneficial to the students.

Pam explained that the policy states that if a request to transfer funds that results in either a 20% or more change in a line item or more than \$10,000 in a budget line item must be approved by the Youth Council and NCI Works. She said that this request is for more than 20% thereby it needs the Youth Council and NCI Works approval.

Sally Hanrahan continued with the second modification submitted by Whiteside County Regional Office of Education. Sally informed members that the Outreach Program is currently limited to out-of-school youth. She said that Whiteside County Regional Office of Education is requesting a modification to serve up to three in-school youth this year. Sally explained that Whiteside County Regional Office of Education was contacted regarding an in-school, homeless youth who is 18 years of age. She said that his family members reside in southern Illinois and their home is not a suitable environment for him. Sally told members that he was residing with a friend when he was evicted from that residence. The principal of a local elementary school is now providing a home for him with the understanding that he continue to attend high school while he studies for his GED exam. They do not want him to drop out of school until he begins his official GED testing. Sally told members that this student is behind in his high school credits and due to his age and living situation, the school has determined that earning his GED would be a better option for him. She said that his future goals are to earn his GED, obtain employment and enroll in post-second education.

After discussion, Tera Armstrong motioned to approve the Whiteside County Regional Office of Education modifications are presented. Motion was seconded by Linda Hessenberger and carried.

Other Business

Pam told members that the modification process for youth projects needs to be revisited. She said that she would include the Modification Policy with the meeting materials for the next Youth Council meeting for review.

Pam also informed members that Program Year 2014 Request for Proposals will be issued in February to potential providers. She added that current providers will be offered an opportunity to extend their current project for one year. The Request to Extend Contract Proposals will also be issued in February. Pam told members that the Youth Council will act on Program Year 2014 projects at the April meeting.

Sally Hanrahan disseminated copies of various articles that were published in local newspapers about the youth projects.

Members were informed that the April meeting will be held at KSB Hospital in Dixon at 9:00 a.m.

Public Comments

None

Adjournment

With there being no further business, Emlee Dooley motioned to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Tera Armstrong and carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Jo Ann Johnson