

**Youth Council
Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2015**

Chairperson Teresa Strum called the Youth Council meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Roll call was taken.

Name	Present	Absent	Name	Present	Absent
Tera Armstrong	X		Terry Madsen		X
Ed Bochniak		X	Jon Mandrell		X
Jim Carlson		X	Jeanette Maurice		X
Emlee Dooley	X		Edna McManus		X
Carrie Folken	X		Paula Rademacher	X	
Sally Hanrahan	X		Mary Stouffer		X
Linda Hessenberger	X		Teresa Strum	X	
Beth Hubbard	X		Lisa Tavitias	X	

OTHERS PRESENT: Pam Furlan, Jo Ann Johnson

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Linda Hessenberger motioned to approve the December 9, 2015 Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Beth Hubbard and carried.

New Business

Update of Career Preparation/Life Skills Program for the LaSalle Safe School

Sally provided members with an update on the Career Preparation/Life Skills Program at the LaSalle County Safe School. She said that students had a presentation on “Being Successful at Work” lead by herself and Dianna Schuler (Business Relations Manager) with Business Employment Skills Team, Inc. Sally told members that the Employer Panel is scheduled for March followed by Edna McManus conducting the Choices Program in April and May. Overall, Sally told members that the project is going well.

Discussion/Selection of location for the next Career Preparation/Life Skills Program

Members then discussed possible locations for the next Career Preparation/Life Skills Program. Tera Armstrong and Emlee Dooley agreed to participate noting that travel was not a concern. After discussion, it was agreed that Sally would contact Nachusa, Chana and Focus House and invite their respective Director’s to the April 14th Youth Council Meeting to discuss the possibility of having a Career Preparation/Life Skills Program at their location. Beth Hubbard will contact and invite the Director from the Whiteside Regional School to the April 14th Youth Council Meeting.

Update on Current Youth Providers

Sally informed members that an updated report was included with the meeting materials that provided specific information about each of the 4 youth providers for Program Year 2014. She said that all programs are operating satisfactorily. Sally noted that some of high school diplomas being earned may be lower than anticipated, but numbers are expected to increase. Carrie commented that with the change in the GED curriculum the attainment is taking a little longer. Pam stated that at the Area Planning Council meeting it was noted that the number of completers in the adult education program are lower. Beth commented that instructional manuals are now available to teach the GED.

Work in the Real World Update

Sally disseminated the results of the Work in the Real World evaluations for members review. She said that overall the majority of the responses were positive.

Changes Under WIOA with Youth

Pam informed members that Carrie Folken highlighted some of the major changes to the WIOA that will affect youth under the new program. She said a copy of those changes were included with the meeting materials. Pam then provided a brief overview of these changes for members.

Recommendation to Modify Current Providers Contract for an Additional 90-days

Pam told members that the Request for Proposal was released with 130 letters being sent to potential providers. She said that since the draft regulations have not been issued she included language that changes could be made during negotiations. Pam said that the Department of Labor will issue Training and Employment Guidance Letters that may provide some direction.

In order to assist the students in the current projects, Pam said that staff are recommending to extend contracts of all providers for 90 days. She said that this extension will allow the contractor to work with the students who will not be transitioning to the new program due to eligibility changes in the programs. Pam continued by saying that if the 90-day extension was granted, the providers will be asked to submit an additional funding request so the funds could be set aside to allow for the completion of the program. With there being no objections, Emlee Dooley motioned to approve a 90-day extension for all PY 14 providers. Motion was seconded by Lisa Tavitas and carried. Beth Hubbard abstained from discussion and voting.

Readers Needed for Request for Proposals

Pam noted that the Request for Proposals for PY 15 will be due on March 27th. She said that readers to rate the proposals are needed and asked for volunteers. Teresa Strum, Paula Rademacher, Sally Hanrahan and Carrie Folken volunteered to read the proposals.

Other Business

Lisa Tavitas informed members that the Bridge-to-Health Careers project is going well. She said that the program is 2 days a week for 16 weeks. Beth told members that 4 students are enrolled in the Bridge-to-Health Careers project and really like it. After discussion, it was agreed to include the Bridge-to-Health Careers as an agenda item to the Youth Council agendas.

Teresa said that a survey was sent out to Youth Council members asking for input about meeting location and times. Pam told members that with the passage of the Open Meetings Act amendment that electronic meetings was allowable. Jo Ann will check some possible sites for the April Youth Council meeting.

Beth Hubbard disseminated an article about a former student who developed a board game.

Public Comments

None

Adjournment

With there being no further business, Paula Rademacher motioned to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Tera Armstrong and carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

Jo Ann Johnson