

**Youth Council
Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2014**

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
Kathy Day	X		Edna McManus		X
Emlee Dooley	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

Sally Hanrahan motioned to approve the August 12, 2014 Meeting Minutes as submitted. Motion was seconded by Tera Armstrong and carried.

New Business

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

Pam said that one of the challenges that was addressed at a previous meeting was trying to find jobs for youth who have a record. She asked members if there were other issues that members would like to address.

Lisa commented that she is working on a bridge to health careers program which, if approved, will start in the spring. She informed members that the welding program was offered this past summer and will be offered again. Lisa also said that an early education program will be offered for adults next fall.

Pam informed members that the LaSalle County Re-Deployment program primarily serves the adult population, but might include some other youth. As a reminder, Pam said that the Re-Deployment program is an alternative to incarceration for adults on probation.

Teresa informed members that Highland Community College will host a “College Night” for students and their parents, except the event will be held during the day. Teresa stated that Forreston High School is hosting a “career day” in which she will be providing information about health occupations. She said that she talked with Pam about someone discussing careers in the manufacturing industry.

Addressing the issue of finding jobs for youth who have record, it was suggested that staff reach out to youth juvenile probation officers and the youth service bureau to see what types of programs they may offer. Pam stated that this is an issue and a concern. Tera commented that she thought BEST, Inc. had a program for juvenile offenders. Pam stated that BEST, Inc., in cooperation with the Bureau County Probation Department offered an ICommand program that transitioned students to work.

Update of career preparation/life skills program for the Safe School

Emlee and Tera provided a detailed report on the Career Preparation/Life Skills Program for the Safe School. Emlee told members that they provided each student with an outline and a brochure of what can expect from this program. She explained that they presented the information to two separate classes on the same day. Tera stated that the majority of the students were respectful, even those who did not want to participate. Members were reminded that copies of the survey responses were included with the meeting materials. Tera continued by saying that she has tallied up the information and will determine which careers they will focus on. It was noted that information on all of the careers identified by the students will be addressed. Members then discussed mock interviews commenting that about half of the students were interested in participating. Pam stated that job search is scheduled for January with mock interviews in March. Pam told members that the month of May would be available if it is needed. Pam said that if any member would be interested in conducting a mock interview to let them know.

2014 Summer Youth Employment Program

Sally informed members that the Summer Youth Employment Program ended on September 30. She said that the program served 80 students.

Update on Current Youth Providers

Sally disseminated an updated Youth Provider report for members and provided an overview of each of the projects.

Bridge – Streator Township High School

Planned Goal: 12

Number Enrolled: 8

High School Diploma's earned: 0

Contract: \$48003.26

Education Outreach Program – Whiteside County Regional Office of Education

Planned Goal to serve: 125

Planned to carry forward into 2014-2015: 80

Planned New Enrollments: 45

Number Enrolled: 107, includes 94 carry-ins

New Enrollments: Whiteside: 10; Lee County: 2; and Ogle County: 2

GED Certificates earned from July 1, 2014 to present: 2

GED Certificates earned prior to July 1, 2014 by youth that were carried into the PY'14 year: 28
Contract: \$220,585.00.

Beth informed members that GED classes began at Focus House in Rochelle and 4 or 5 students are enrolled. She said that today was the first day for the new job coach and is confident the program will be a success.

Regional Work Study – LaSalle County Regional Office of Education

Planned Goal: 12
Number carried in: 5
New Number Enrolled: 6
Diplomas Earned: 0
Contract: \$40,015.79

Step Ahead – Bureau County Regional Office of Education

Planned Goal: 10
Carried In: 5
New Number Enrolled: 0
Diplomas Earned: 2
Contract: \$39,625.00

Sauk Valley Community College / National Manufacturing Day

In the absence of Jon Mandrell, Pam reported that Sauk Valley Community College will have a National Manufacturing Day on October 24th. She said that nearly 500 students will be in attendance starting at Sterling High School's auditorium with keynote speakers in manufacturing. Pam said that the students will then tour local manufacturing industries and end with lunch at Sauk Valley Community College where they will take part in a manufacturing expo for the afternoon.

Pam said that a few weeks ago, Sauk Valley Community College hosted a Parent and Community Night for manufacturing with about 30 in attendance. Sally stated that she attended the event as a parent and felt it was beneficial.

Paula said that Sauk Valley Community College is considering having another parent event in the spring.

WIOA Update / Impact on Youth / Youth Programs

Pam informed members that the Workforce Investment Act has been reauthorized as the Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act. She said that the focus is on developing regulations which are expected to be released in mid-January. She told members that she is attending a Town Hall meeting tomorrow hosted by the Department of Labor that will include information about youth.

Pam then highlighted some of the key changes in the new legislation as it relates to youth. She said that current legislation requires that 30% of youth funds has to be spent on out-of-school youth. The new legislation, Pam said, requires that 75% of the funds be spent on out-of-school youth. Pam said that in-school youth are those ages 14-21 and out-of-school are ages 16-24. At this time, Pam commented that the definition of in-school and out-of-school youth is still unclear. One other change, Pam noted is that 20% of the youth allocation has to be used for work-based learning such as On-the-Job Training, Summer Youth, Apprenticeship and Internship programs.

Pam informed members that she will be revising the Request for Proposal with plans of getting it out to providers as soon as possible.

Other Business

Pam asked members about having a December meeting. She said that in the past the committees did not meet during the month of December due to busy schedules. Members agreed that they would plan for a December meeting pending agenda items. Meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 9, 2014, 9:00 a.m. at KSB Hospital, Dixon.

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 5:20 p.m.

Jo Ann Johnson