

**Youth Council
Meeting Minutes
August 11, 2015**

Chairperson Teresa Strum called the Youth Council meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Roll call was taken.

Name	Present at KSB Hospital, Dixon	Present at NCI Works One Stop, Ottawa	Present at Carroll County Housing Authority	Absent
Tera Armstrong		X		
Ed Bochniak			X	
Jim Carlson		X		
Emlee Dooley				X
Carrie Folken		X		
Sally Hanrahan				X
Linda Hessenberger				X
Beth Hubbard	X			
Terry Madsen	X			
Jon Mandrell				X
Jeanette Maurice				X
Edna McManus		X		
Paula Rademacher				X
Mary Stouffer				X
Teresa Strum	X			
Lisa Tavitas				X

OTHERS PRESENT (KSB Hospital, Dixon): Pam Furlan, Jo Ann Johnson

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Tera Armstrong motioned to approve the June 9, 2015 Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion was carried by Ed Bochniak and carried.

New Business

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

Carrie Folken informed members that Sally Hanrahan has communicated with both the LaSalle Safe School and Nachusa Campus School regarding the Career Preparation/Life Skills Program. Sally suggested that if the LaSalle Safe School is interested in the program again this school year that the same topics be presented. Carrie told members that although the same topics will be presented the

curriculum will be different. She also commented that different employers would be contacted to be a part of the employer panel. Carrie stated that Sally has talked to Jennifer with the LaSalle Safe School and presentations will not start until after September. Pam asked if orientation would be held with the students. Carrie replied, yes, since during the orientation students are asked to complete a survey to give the presenters an idea of their interests. Pam asked if staff could use the "A" game during the session. Carrie said that Sally plans on using the "A" to allow for more interaction between the presenter and students.

Career Preparation/Life Skills Program for Nachusa Campus School (Carrie Folken)

Carrie reported that Sally has spoken with the Principal (Janet) and Chris Delemata with Nachusa Campus School. Nachusa Campus School is very interested in a monthly presentation using the same topics that were conducted at LaSalle Safe School. Carrie commented that as soon as Sally hears from Nachusa with the specific topics and possible dates she will contact those individuals who will be involved with the presentations. Tera commented that she would not be able to participate in the orientation program for the Nachusa program, due to travelling distance. Pam stated that perhaps Emlee or another Youth Council members would be able to conduct the orientation session as she lives closer.

Update on Current Youth Providers

Carrie informed members that the current Youth Providers report was provided with the meeting materials. She told members that each of the providers received a 90-day extension on their PY 2014 contract for those WIA students enrolled in their respective programs. Carrie said that this extension will allow the students to complete their program and/or action plan. The new contracts for Program Year 2015 (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016) have been completed with the understanding from the providers that until the WIOA funding becomes available to BEST, Inc. they will need to wait for reimbursement. Carrie also pointed out that the LaSalle County Regional Office of Education program will be offered at 2 locations (Ottawa and LaSalle) for PY 2015. Carrie told members that each of the youth providers were asked to increase their enrollments by 20% to serve more individuals for PY 2015. She said that with the changes in the WIOA eligibility, this increase would not be a problem.

Teresa asked about the low number of students earning their GEDs or diplomas. Carrie commented that some students may be in summer school and have not yet completed the class. She said that typically staff see the earning of GEDs and diplomas during October. Beth commented that the Whiteside Regional Office of Education program did not meet during for 3 weeks in July due to GED instruction for testing.

WIOA Update

Pam informed members that due to a lack of an IL State Budget, DCEO is preventing us from receiving any WIOA money. She said there is about 3.5 million for PY 15 and about \$700,000 of PY 14 money that BEST, Inc. is not able to access. The current status, Pam said, is State Senate Bill 2042 passed unanimously and is scheduled to go the House either today or tomorrow. Pam told members that the

House Committee held hearings yesterday and this Bill. The best scenario, Pam said is that this Bill would pass the House and as long as there were no amendments the Governor would sign it on Friday. Pam told members that BEST, Inc. has a contingency plan through September and possibly October if the Bill is not passed. Pam said that the contingency plan includes the youth providers not being paid until money becomes available, all work based learning activities will be stopped. Continuing, Pam said that new students will be enrolled at the community colleges with the understanding that the community colleges will not be paid until money becomes available. Pam stated that staff have talked with the leaseholders of various BEST, Inc. offices and they have agreed to waiting for their rent payments until money is available. Pam said that if members that if they have any contacts with their state representatives to encourage them to support the Bill as presented and without any amendments. Pam noted that Tri-County Opportunities Council was forced to close their offices due to the budget crisis.

In regards to the Workforce Development Board, Pam told members that the Chief Elected Officials met last night and voted on the new composition and appointed members. She said that the new NCI Works Board will consist of 39 members with the majority representing the business sector. Pam said that the Workforce Development Board certification is due to the IL Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity by August 14 with the new board implemented by October 1. Pam told members that once the new board is formed there will be an orientation meeting hopefully at the November meeting. At that meeting, Pam said that she is hoping to have a professional facilitator at the meeting to conduct training. Pam said that although a Youth Council is not required under WIOA, it is recommended. She said that she will make the recommendation to the new board to retain the Youth Council as an NCI Works committee. If everyone is agreeable, Pam said, she would like the Youth Council to continue to meet every other month as they have been doing. Pam told members that she is in the process of getting some information about projects and programs available in other areas and states.

Other Business

Leadership Development Conference 2015 Evaluation Summary

Teresa informed members that a copy of the Leadership Development Conference Evaluation Summary was enclosed with the meeting materials. Carrie told members that the conference was held at IL Valley Community College and Sauk Valley Community College. Members asked how many students were in attendance at each site. Carrie said that she did not have that information but would ask Sally to send the specific information out to members. (Copy of Sally Hanrahan's Email to Youth Council Members: The first day was held at Sauk Valley Community College with 12 youth from Lee, Whiteside, Carroll and Ogle Counties attending. The second day was held at IL Valley Community College with 6 youth from LaSalle and Bureau Counties attending. The survey information was a compilation from both days. The numbers on the survey won't add up to 18 because not all youth chose to answer every question.").

Teresa told members that students participated in "Bring Your "A" Game to Work". She said the students discussed attitude, attendance, appearance, ambition, accountability, acceptance and appreciation during this event. Carrie stated that the "Bring Your "A" Game to Work" curriculum was

recently purchased and all of the BEST, Inc. Youth Career Advisors are trained to teach the job readiness workshop.

Public Comments

None

Adjournment

With there being no further business, Terry Madsen motioned to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Beth Hubbard and carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Jo Ann Johnson