

Governor's State Workforce Investment Board Youth Council

Great Northern Hotel
Helena, Montana
May 29, 2008

DRAFT MINUTES

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Gail Richardson, Chair; Margaret Bowls; Marcella Buster; Karen Duncan; Dan Dolan; Sara Fox; Jake Gustin; James McDonald; Warren Means; Tescha Hawley; and Mike Nephew.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Curt Campbell; and James Patelis.

STAFF: Leisa Smith; Dan Bernhardt; and Connie Kinsey (advisory).

GUESTS: Rick Davis; Drenda Carlson; and Tracy Moseman.

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chairperson Richardson called the meeting to order at 12:40 p.m. She welcomed staff, council members, and guests.

- Roll Call, Housekeeping, and New Documents

Ms. Smith conducted roll call, addressed house keeping items, and reviewed the meeting documents presented. Chair Richardson explained that the council conducts business under Roberts Rules of Order. She stated she would relax Roberts Rules of Order to allow informal discussion among members. She reminded council members to please state their name clearly when speaking for the accuracy of the minutes.

- Agenda

Chair Richardson asked if there were any changes to the agenda. The agenda was approved as presented by consensus.

- Meeting Minutes – February 14, 2008

Chair Richardson asked if there were any changes to the February 14, 2008 minutes. With no changes presented the minutes were approved by consensus.

II. Generation Why?

The Generation Why DVD by Eric Chester was viewed; followed by guest speaker Rick Davis, General Manager, Great Northern Carousel and Painted Pony Ice Cream Parlor. Mr. Chester is the premier expert on Generation Why. The video provided insight and perspective on recruiting,

training, and managing the new emerging generation workforce. Mr. Davis was first exposed to Mr. Chester at a National Ice Cream Retailers Association convention resulting in a paradigm for managing a younger workforce. The results of incorporating Mr. Chester's management techniques include: lower turnover rates, increased promotion of younger workforce into management positions, improved customer service results, improved productivity, and profit., Mr. Davis has been the recipient of 2005-2006 Downtown Helena Teamwork Award; and 2006 – 2007 Downtown Helena Business of the Year Award. Additional information and materials on Mr. Chester and Generation Why can be found on the following site: www.generationwhy.com

III. Youth Connections

Drenda Carlson, Director, Youth Connections and Tracy Moseman, Helena's Safe and Drug Free Schools Coordinator, addressed the council sharing information on Youth Connections activities within the Helena community. Youth Connections is a community coalition dedicated to supporting area youth in resisting first use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. Youth Connections utilizes the 40 Developmental Assets Framework to guide their work in promoting positive youth development. The 40 Assets was developed by the Minneapolis-based Search Institute. Health Communities and Healthy Youth is the institute's national initiative to equip communities across the country to build assets for youth. Additional information on Youth Connections can be found at the following site: www.youthconnectionscoalition.org. Additional information on The Search Institute and the Developmental Assets can be found at the following site: www.search-institute.org

IV. Montana Shared Youth Vision

Ms. Kinsey introduced members of the Youth Council that serve as the Montana Shared Youth Vision core team. Members include: Connie Kinsey, Margaret Bowls, Karen Duncan, and Marci Buster. Team members reviewed the history of Montana's Shared Youth Vision starting with the federal Shared Youth Vision initiative and activities regarding the development of Montana's plan. The discussion brought the council up to date with activities and a project proposal and initiative - Vision to Reality: "The Faces of GED". The target group for the initiative is 16 -24 year olds without a high school diploma or GED. Assisting this group with securing their basic levels of education is expected to result in a broader source of labor available to business. The proposal outlined goals and action steps which include: data collection, asset mapping, researching other state models, and discussing career transitions and pathways. Preliminary research was presented along with the finalized vision and mission statements. The team went on to solicit input and support from the council and made a request for the proposal to be carried forward for further discussion to the SWIB or Executive Committee.

Dan Dolan motioned: "Keeping in mind the charge of the Shared Youth Vision is to develop a collaborative approach to serve the neediest youth that have been left behind; The Youth Council requests that the State Workforce Investment Board's Executive Committee or the full Board discuss 'The Faces of GED' initiative at or prior to the August, 2008 SWIB meeting." Jim. McDonald seconded the motion which passed with Ms. Bowles, Ms. Buster, and Ms. Duncan abstaining.

Mr. Means stressed the importance for business and industry to partner in the initiative. Public comment from Alicia Mitchell encouraged further expansion of the workgroup to include programs and agencies that work with youth.

V. WIA Youth Report

Ms. Kinsey reported all program monitoring for youth service providers had been completed. No serious findings were indicated. The federal monitors were also here in May, 2008 and have not yet submitted a report of their findings. The Office of Public Instruction (OPI), Commissioners Office of Higher Education (OCHE), and the Department of Labor (DLI) received incentive funds for successfully exceeding negotiated performance levels. The money will be used to transition adults into the workforce. DLI will perform research and identify high skill, high wage, and high demand occupations. OCHE will utilize the data to create pathways for adults to those careers. OPI will then provide access to the pathways through career counseling and matching their skills and talents.

Ms. Kinsey also reported the SWIB approved both BOS and CEP areas are awarded base funding with a hold harmless clause as new program funds are allocated to the State for next fiscal year. Census data from both 1990 (for areas of substantial unemployment) and 2000 (for economically disadvantaged) will be used for further distribution of funds based on the federal formula.

VI. Other Business

Ms. Smith updated the council on the evolution, progress, and action steps of the board's transformation process. The SWIB is aligned with the Governor's workforce goals: Quality Jobs, Quality of Life, and Sustainability. Ms. Smith stated the Youth Council and Montana's Shared Youth Vision can and will be a vital force in helping the State achieve these results.

The council discussed the next meeting being held in mid to late September or in October. Staff will look into scheduling a meeting in Eastern Montana preferably to be held on one of the Reservations.

VII. Adjourn

With no further comments Chair Richardson adjourned the meeting at 4:41 p.m.