

**NEMO Workforce Investment Board
YOUTH COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
February 19, 2010**

PRESENT:

Youth Council Members:

Debbie Akright, Division of Youth Services
Donna Dunwoody, Moberly Housing Authority
Jimmy Gear, Dynamic Educational Systems, Inc.
Alonna Murphy, 10th Circuit Juvenile Office

Guests:

Sheree Prebe, Gamm Inc.

NEMO Workforce Investment Board Staff:

Brandi Glover
Sharon Hillard

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Vice Chairperson Debbie Akright called the February 19, 2010, Northeast Missouri Workforce Investment Board (NEMO WIB) Youth Council (YC) meeting to order at approximately 1:00 p.m. at the Division of Youth Services Northeast Regional Office in Columbia, Missouri.

ROLL CALL AND SIGNATURE SHEET

Four Youth Council members were present, and a quorum was established. The signature sheet was signed by all individuals.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Donna Dunwoody made a motion to approve the agenda. Debbie Akright seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF THE YOUTH COUNCIL MINUTES

Donna Dunwoody made a motion to approve the November 20, 2009 meeting minutes. Alonna Murphy seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

YOUTH SERVICE PROVIDERS UPDATES/REPORTS

- **Boonslick RPC**

JoAnn Toerper was unable to attend. Brandi provided and reviewed Boonslick's service provider report. She said JoAnn asked her to mention that although they appeared to be behind in their work experience expenditures for in- and out-of-school youth, they feel the funds are obligated and they don't foresee a problem expending them. Brandi said both program operators have some funds left in the 85 and 15 percent Summer Youth program that can still be used. She explained that these categories were extended and the program operators don't feel it will be an issue to expend the funds.

- **Gamm Inc**

Sheree said Gamm was on target to spend all of their funds. She said they have had a lot of older youth come through. They have some youth in work experience, and their operational costs were okay. Sheree said it had been a busy year and everything that was going on was making it difficult to do their jobs.

Brandi explained that staff was working really hard to develop teams to make sure the Next Generation Career Center (NGCC) model was ready to go into effect by July 1, 2010. She said the NGCC model will restructure how we operate and do business in the career centers. Currently Sheree, JoAnn and front line staff are being asked to take time away from the career centers to help develop teams and work on the project. The Youth Council discussed some of the changes of the NGCC model. Brandi said there are a lot of changes, but they do not affect the youth.

WIA YOUTH PROGRAM UPDATE

- **Mo Performs Report**

Brandi reviewed the MO Performs Reports for PY 09 through December 2009. The first report was for the services report by career center and the second report was for the region as a whole.

Brandi said in the past the Youth Council had been provided a report that showed how the career centers were performing on their measures percentage wise. She didn't provide that report this time because one measure on the report was incorrect. The third report Brandi presented contained enrollments and exit information and showed how many youth are currently in the program by region and career center. The reports did not include ARRA summer employment numbers. Donna asked if Brandi was concerned about any of the information on the reports. Brandi said she thought the subcontractors were doing fine on their performance.

Alonna asked about Hannibal's lower numbers. Sheree said Hannibal had enrolled a lot of older youth and they were trying to come around. She said part of the reason for their low numbers was due to the large number of dislocated workers in the area. Sheree said she could send Jane to Hannibal to do some more recruiting but they have already worked very hard in the area to reach the youth. She knew they had everybody that was eligible enrolled in the practical nursing program. Sheree said they are short staffed at Hannibal. They do have Letisha up and going now, but they basically had two full-time WIA staff in Hannibal. She said it is probably just due to the limit on their time to get out of the office. Donna asked if the staffing issue was going to be addressed. Sheree said she was waiting because she wanted to see how the NGCC process develops. She said they are saying that the State is going to say how many staff we will have in the career centers and she didn't want to get into a situation where she would hire someone and then have to let them go July 1st.

Brandi asked the YC their preference regarding the MO Performs reports. Donna said she felt she learned from the data, and would like to continue to receive the information. Brandi said as long as the MO Performs data was correct, she would continue to provide the reports regarding goals/performance measures, enrollments, etc.

- **Summer Youth Program**

Brandi said she and Mark met with DWD Director Julie Gibson and the Department of Natural Resources regarding a summer youth project with the Department of Natural Resources. The project is called *MO State Parks Youth Corps*, and through the project youth will be employed in the State Parks and Historic Sites throughout the state. A website will launch next week where youth will be able to sign up; however, the State has put a disclaimer on the website that says they will not be contacted until the middle of April. Brandi said the Department of Natural Resources supervisors have sent in a list of positions that they would like youth to be employed in this summer. Most of the positions are for hard labor, maintenance types of jobs. Youth will be doing trail work and clearing paths, and there are some interpretive concession aid and office positions available as well. Brandi said all of the parks in our region were participating and have signed up for youth. Park supervisors are supposed to be submitting their requests and that will determine how many slots we will get for the Northeast Region and how much funding we will receive.

Brandi said the program would run from May 1 to September 30, 2010. There will be a total of about 1,000 to 1,500 positions for the whole state. She said we would be screening the applications and if we feel they are a good fit for the program, we will send them on to the Park supervisors who will do the interviewing, criminal background checks and actual hiring. We will be working with five people to coordinate all the worksites. She was unsure about eligibility requirements at this time. However, applicants must be honest on their online application or they would be rejected. To date, Brandi was unaware of any other funds available

for a summer program like last year's. Some of the State Parks and Historic Sites that the Northeast Region is going to be able to place youth are The Battle of Athens, Iliniwek Village, Mark Twain, Thousand Hills, Long Branch, Cuivre River, Graham Cave and the Katy Trail. Sites requesting the most youth in our area are The Battle of Athens, Iliniwek and Cuivre River.

Brandi said the age group for the project would probably be 18-24 because 17 year olds and younger can't be transported, and a lot of the work may require the use of equipment such as chainsaws and weed eaters. She said there would also be some construction positions available.

Brandi said the Department of Natural Resources seems to be pretty excited to get the recruitment from the program. A lot of their staff that was present at the meeting began their career as seasonal help. They hope to interest youth in the State Parks as a career. Brandi said the MO State Parks Youth Corps Summer Youth program will be nothing like last summer's youth program. To date, she has not heard of any other projects or funding for youth. She said she will email the link for the project website to the Youth Council members when it is available.

- **Youth Program Request for Proposal (RFP)**

Brandi said at the last YC meeting she informed the members that due to the NGCC the WIB was being told that we were going to have to RFP all of the programs and we were unsure if that would include the Youth program. We now know that we do not have to RFP the Youth program this year. Brandi said we did a Request for Proposal for the Youth contracts last year. The contracts have the option of two one year renewals. If the Youth Council wishes, they can recommend that the WIB renew those contracts. Brandi said the Youth Council would probably vote on that at the April meeting.

STRATEGIC PLAN; COMMITTEES

- **Goals/Achievements/Committee Breakouts**

Brandi provided two copies of the Youth Council's Strategic Plan. She explained that one was the original copy and the other was the revised copy which was more reflective of the WIB's Strategic Plan. She said the revisions included more goals and action steps for the process. The members began reviewing the plan and suggesting changes they wished to make. They worked through goals 1, 2, 4 and some of goal 3 and made the suggested changes. They decided to review one or two of the goals at each Youth Council meeting.

Brandi said she hoped to get Mark Chambers and students at the Moberly Area Community College involved in the website for marketing and she asked if anyone else would like to be on the committee. She also mentioned that Denise Bennett had resigned from the WIB but was still a member of the Youth Council. However since Youth Council Chairs need to be members of the WIB, that would limit the number of candidates the Council would have for Chairpersons. Currently members of the Youth Council who are also members of the WIB are Terri Jones, Penny Miles and Penny Schwartz. Brandi said Terri plans to retire in one year, she wasn't sure Penny Miles was interested in the position because she had done it so many times in the past and Penny Schwartz was very new to the Youth Council and fairly new to the WIB. She said a good candidate for a Youth Council member would be an education or business person. While discussing Goal 4 *Youth Council Expansion and Increase Partnerships/Collaborations*, the members discussed possible Youth Council members to recruit. They mentioned high school counselors, etc. George Griffin, and a lady Sheree knew were discussed as candidates. Sheree said the lady taught GED in the Northern Counties, and she would ask her on Thursday.

Brandi asked if there was anything the YC members felt they would like to receive as far as training that would help them in their role as Youth Council members. It was suggested that the YC members could learn from members of other Youth Councils. Brandi suggested contacting an individual from the Northwest Region's Youth Council that has a lot of experience with the Youth program to see if they would be willing to come and share with the members.

CONFIRM NEXT MEETING DATE/LOCATION

The next meeting date was set for 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. on April 16, 2010 at the Division of Youth Services Northeast Regional Office in Columbia, Missouri.

ADJOURNMENT

Donna Dunwoody made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Debbie Akright seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at approximately 3:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Mark Chambers