

# Workforce Investment Board of Merced County Youth Council

UC Cooperative Extension (Ag Building)  
2145 Wardrobe Ave, Merced, CA

Wednesday, October 21, 2009 – 3:30-4:00 p.m.

## Meeting Minutes



<http://web.co.merced.ca.us/wi/youth/meetingpkts/meetingpkts.html>

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**Members Present:** Melissa Abby, Bob Bittner, Robert Bender, Claudia Corchado (Vice Chair), Martha Dueñas, John Fowler, Debbie Glass (Chair), Alexander Hall, Mary Jane Hawkes, Richard Mahacek, Holly Newlon, Rick Osorio, Edgar Perez, Nancy A. Silva, Vann (Mike) Smith

**Members Absent:** Stephanie Busbea, Patricia Evans, Nellie McGarry, Atenas Vallejo

**Others Present:** Jose Esquivel, Patricia Hinson, Alfredo Mendoza, Joanne Presnell, Eve Snelling

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1. Call to Order/Roll Call: The Chair, Ms. Debbie Glass, called the meeting to order at 3:38 p.m. Roll call was taken.
2. Approve Agenda: It was *M/S/C Hall/Fowler* to approve the agenda as published.
3. Approve Minutes (Sept 16, 2009): The minutes were not approved due to the following changes: 1) Members Present, add Mr. Edgar Perez; and 2) Action item 6, members' comments to read as follow: Members would like to have ample time to review and discuss items, and make sure they have papers in advance for proper review.
4. Public Opportunity to Speak—None
5. Announcements: Sgt. Robert Bender noted effective December 31, 2009; he will retire from the California National Guard and introduced Sgt Jose Esquivel as his replacement. Following are some recruitment changes the CA National Guard has made: 1) The person representing the National Guard at the One-Stop will be an employee from the National Guard instead of a civilian; 2) The recruitment age limit has changed to 42 years old and 3) The assessment test scores have dropped from a score of 50 to 31 in order to be considered for recruitment.

Ms. Mary Jane Hawkes noted the open house on October 16<sup>th</sup> was a success with over 700 families attending. Ms. Hawkes added another open house is scheduled for January 27, 2010.

Mr. John Fowler noted the Business-Education Alliance of Merced County (B.E.A.M.) is funded by David & Lucile Packard Foundation and administered by the Merced County Office of Education. This program is a partnership of business, education, government and community leaders who support education and economic growth. The focus has been on preschool quality education in Merced County. This program has been a success with plans to expand to other counties in addition to targeting students from K-12.

Ms. Claudia Corchado noted there are two initiatives scheduled through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. 1) Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, there will be a food fair 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at the Merced County Food Bank. The community will have the opportunity to talk to organic farmers, learn more

about what we're eating, organic produce, know more of what the food bank is all about, and how individuals can become volunteers. 2) Another community initiative is a partnership with other counties, community members, and local County Parks and Recreation to start a project entitled 'Take Back the Parks'. Some activities include painting over graffiti on walls, checking the water system, and other environmental issues. This initiative is planned to start in December, and the goal is to get the community involved in taking back the parks.

Mr. Mike Smith noted Pedal Merced was a success with over 350 families attending the event, and the Lions Club prepared lunch for everybody.

Mr. Richard Mahacek noted on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 5:30 p.m., there will be an event at Bob Hart Square entitled "Lights off After School". Some activities include information on afterschool programs. Children can wear their Halloween costumes. Mr. Mahacek invited members to attend the Dinner/Auction fundraiser at the Hilmar Grange on October 24<sup>th</sup>. The auction will start at 5:30 p.m., the dinner at 7:00 p.m., and the cost is \$12.50 per person. A Science, Engineering and Technology workshop is scheduled next Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m., at the UC Cooperative Extension (Ag Building). The workshop is targeted for high school teens, afterschool volunteers, and staff. There is another workshop scheduled for the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of next month.

6. Discussion Agenda:

a. CWA Youth Conference – Staff noted the California Work Association 2010 Youth Conference will be held January 19, 2010, Long Beach, CA. The Youth Council has funding to send several members to the conference. The theme will be 'A Billion Beats'. Merced County Office of Education will be presenting on "The Real Game", and the Dept of WI will submit a presentation regarding the San Joaquin Valley Green Jobs Corps regional project. If you're interested in attending the conference, please call Mr. Alfredo Mendoza (724-2044).

7. Presentations: Longitudinal Study:

a) Mr. Richard Mahacek provided PowerPoint presentation about the Longitudinal Study of Merced County youth.

b) Job Corps for Females: Ms. Melissa Abby provided a presentation on the Job Corps Program.

8. Information Agenda:

a. Youth Council Resignation: Effective September 29, 2009, Ms. Taide Hernandez resigned from the Youth Council.

b. Empower 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Report (April-June): A copy of the report was provided with the Youth Council package.

c. Youth Opportunity 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Report (April-June): A copy of the report was provided with the Youth Council package.

9. Chair Comments/Roundtable/Future Agenda Item: The Chair provided a copy of the goals and mission statement for the Youth Council members to review. She also encouraged members to view the Youth Council website. The Chair would like to discuss the goals and functions of the Youth Council at the next Youth Council meeting.

Future presentation: Ms. Jacqueline Walther-Parnell, will provide information at the next meeting regarding program expenditures.

There was a request for staff to provide information, via email, on available expenditures relating to the Youth Council, and a copy of the Federal Register.

10. Date, Time and Location of Next Youth Council Meeting: November 18, 2009, Dept of Workforce Investment, Large Conference Room, 1880 Wardrobe Avenue, Merced.

11. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.