

Workforce Investment Board of Merced County Youth Council

Department of Workforce Investment
1880 Wardrobe Ave, Merced, CA

Wednesday, November 18, 2009 – 3:30-5:00 p.m.

Meeting Notes



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

Members Present: Bob Bittner, John Fowler, Debbie Glass (Chair), Alexander Hall, Mary Jane Hawkes, Holly Newlon, Nancy A. Silva, Vann (Mike) Smith

Members Absent: Melissa Abby, Stephanie Busbea, Claudia Corchado (Vice Chair), Martha Dueñas Patricia Evans, Richard Mahacek, Nellie McGarry, Rick Osorio, Edgar Perez, Atenas Vallejo

Others Present: Bernedette Castaneda, Jessica Garibay, Patricia Hinson, Alfredo Mendoza, Maria Negrete, Joanne Presnell, Jackie Walther-Parnell, Nancy Vega-Mendoza

1. Call to Order/Roll Call: The Chair, Ms. Debbie Glass, noted the regular meeting would be canceled due to lack of quorum. The Chair convened a workgroup at 3:38 p.m. to discuss the agenda items. A sign-in sheet was used in lieu of roll call.

2. Public Opportunity to Speak: None

3. Announcements: Mr. Mike Smith noted 30 disadvantaged youth from Atwater received computers. The computers were donated by Gallo, but the program was through United Way. United Way thought there must be other places that could provide computers and setting up a “youth auxiliary” to rehabilitate the donated computers was discussed. If interested in pursuing the idea, the Council may contact Mr. Flip Hassett of United Way for further information.

Ms. Holly Newlon noted she has “Green Tickets” for a Camp Green Meadows breakfast on December 4th. Tickets are \$10 each. All proceeds will benefit facility improvement and repair. The breakfast is from 7:00 to 8:30 a.m. at Merced County Office of Education (MCOE).

Mr. John Fowler noted he attended Part II of Organizing for Action, which is sponsored by First 5 and MCOE. This committee has broken into five different committees, which will review the action items for the Business and Education Alliance of Merced (B.E.A.M). The committee will meet again in January 2010 with public information setup through a pilot program by the State.

Ms. Mary Jane Hawkes noted the open house on October 16th was a success with over 750 people attending. Ms. Hawkes added that another open house is scheduled for January 26, 2010. Mr. Bruce Day will be a speaker at the open house. Ms. Hawkes will provide more details as she receives them.

Staff introduced Mrs. Jessica Garibay who is now part of the Workforce Investment staff team. She will be attending Youth Council meetings and take the minutes.

Ms. Debbie Glass noted a research survey by WestEd stated 5.3 million adults in California are without high school diplomas and only 1.1 million adults are actually making an effort to earn their diploma. As

“Baby Boomers” retire, the group that is supposed to fill those positions doesn’t have the same level of education, creating a large education gap, which is not good news for the California economy.

Mr. Bittner noted he would be retiring from EDD in December and will no longer be on the Workforce Investment Board; however, he would like to continue on the Youth Council.

Mr. Alexander Hall noted the 15th Annual Holiday Parade festivities are scheduled for Saturday, December 5th at 11:00 a.m. on Main Street between G and N Streets. The parade will begin at 3:00 p.m. followed by a tree lighting ceremony. Mr. Hall also noted Parks and Community Services is sponsoring the 3rd Middle School New Years Eve Bash at the Boys and Girls Club on December 31st from 8:00 p.m. to midnight. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

Ms. Maria Negrete noted the Youth Opportunity Program (YOP) is celebrating its 20th anniversary in Los Angeles and she and Ms. Vallejo will be attending.

Ms. Nancy Vega-Mendoza noted EDD is having its 7th Annual Thanksgiving Drive. Ten turkeys were donated from local grocery stores. Canned food items were also collected. Ten needy families were identified from the County of Merced, and will be receiving baskets. EDD will also participate in Toys for Tots, and has identified 38 students from Franklin & Fremont Elementary schools to receive the donated toys. The students will also be visited by Santa and have their pictures taken.

4. Discussion Agenda:

a. Youth Council Goals & Functions: Council members were provided a worksheet with a list of the goals and functions of the Youth Council. The goals and functions were rated on importance and relevance to today’s Youth Council. There is an ongoing discussion in regards to the goals and functions of the Youth Council and whether or not they will be modified. This item will be on the December meeting agenda.

5. Presentations: None

6. Information Agenda:

a. Youth Council Resignation: Ms. Nancy Silva resigned from the Youth Council effective 11/18/09.

b. Empower 1st Quarter Report (Jul-Sept): A copy of the report was provided with the Youth Council package.

c. Youth Opportunity 1st Quarter Report (April-June): A copy of the report was provided with the Youth Council package.

7. Chair Comments/Roundtable/Future Agenda Item: The Chair noted that as a Youth Council there should be youth attending the meetings. Several ideas were discussed as to how to attract youth to the meetings. Having Ms. Jonae Pistorosi attend and present “The Generation Gap”, was also entertained. Members decided to receive the Customer Satisfaction Survey information only for programs funded by the Youth Council, either monthly or quarterly.

Future presentation: Due to time constraints, Ms. Jacqueline Walther-Parnell will provide program expenditures information at the next meeting. Staff was asked to invite Mr. Hassett, United Way, to present on the computer project.

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8. Date, Time and Location of Next Youth Council Meeting: December 16, 2009, 3:30 p.m., MCOE, Bldg M, 632 W. 13th Street, Merced

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