

Workforce Investment Board of Merced County

Youth Council

Merced County Office of Education – Newbold Room

632 W. 13th Street, Merced, CA

Wednesday, April, 2005 – 4:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes



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

Members Present: Stephanie Busbea, Mary Cavazos, Natalie Culver, Ben Duran, Evelyn Eagleton, Rennise Ferrario, Alexander Hall, Robert Harmon, Kathy Hassett, Mary Jane Hawkes, Rebecca Lincoln, Richard Mahacek, Rick Osorio (Chair), Edgar Perez, Mayra Ramirez, Nathan Timmerman, Rev. Craig E. White, Sr

Members Absent: Bob Bittner, Claudia Corchado, Taide Hernandez (Vice Chair), Charlie Lambert, Vann (Mike) Smith

Others Present: Lee Andersen (MCOE Superintendent), Dave Davis, Dee Knight, Nellie McGarry

1. Call to Order/Roll Call: The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m., and roll call was taken.

2. Approve Agenda: It was *M/S/C Duran/Hall* to approve the agenda as published.

3. Approve Minutes: The March 9, 2005 minutes were approved by consensus.

4. Public Opportunity to Speak: Ms. Evelyn Eagleton noted Mr. Mike Smith had provided a cake to say "Thank You" to Ms. Nellie McGarry and "Welcome" to Mr. Rick Osorio. She also presented a plaque "Friend of Youth" award to Ms. McGarry from the Youth Council.

Ms. McGarry was very honored and thanked everyone. She stated that even if she doesn't continue to be a member of the Workforce Investment Board (WIB), she would always be a part of the Youth Counsel especially since she is involved with the Boys and Girls Club.

5. Announcements:

a. Ms. Kathy Hassett attended a Mental Health meeting, and she invited Mental Health to make a presentation to the Youth Council. She noted Proposition 63 is going to bring state dollars into Merced County for mental health programs for youth and adults. Mental Health will contact staff about being included on the May 11th agenda.

b. On April 27, 2005, 1:30-5:00 p.m., the Empower Program will have its Empower Zone. Judges are needed for this event. Several Youth Council members volunteered as judges. Once all participants have been scored, there is a celebration where certificates are given, and the highest scorer receives a monetary award. Any other volunteers should contact Ms. Rebecca Lincoln at 381-5916.

c. The Children's Summit teen session will be Saturday, September 24, 2005, location to be determined. Youth Council members were invited to participate on the planning committee for the teen session. The next Summit subgroup meeting is Tuesday, April 19, 2005, 4 p.m., Merced College Admin Conference Room.

d. On May 13, 2005, Central Valley Opportunity Center is having its Annual Scholarship Banquet at the Doubletree Hotel in Modesto. They will be giving \$750 scholarships to youth in Modesto, Merced and Madera (5 to Modesto/Madera). This year Merced will receive 6. The tickets are \$50. Anyone interested in attending, please call CVOC at 357-0062.

e. Merced County Office of Education had a review of its Empower and YOP Programs. The examiners were astonished and pleased at the statistics for both programs.

f. The Independent Living Program is having its graduation celebration for 47 high school seniors on May 9, 2005, 6:00 p.m., at the Elks Lodge. They are sending out invitations. If anyone is interested in attending, call Ms. Natalie Culver at 381-6585.

g. Ms. Marissa Enciso, an Empower youth, has a scholarship for this summer (2 ½ months) to go to Honduras to investigate Sweat Shops. She will go to Washington, DC for an orientation process before flying to Honduras.

h. The Boys and Girls Club is having its 11th Annual Auction/Dinner benefit on Saturday, April 16, 2005. The tickets are \$35. The program will have a parent and an alumni of the Boys and Girls Club speak on the importance of "Keeping the Boys and Girls Club Open". See Ms. McGarry if you are interested in attending.

i. Staff noted Ms. Anna Andrade has resigned from the Youth Council because she no longer represents the Girl Scouts. When the Board Agenda Item for Mr. Nathan Timmerman (Youth) was considered, Mr. Mike Nelson spoke very eloquently of Nathan's character and that it would be good to have him on the Youth Council.

6. Information Agenda:

a. State of California Two-Year Strategic Plan – Youth Impacts: Staff provided a review of this draft plan, and noted it concentrates on the youth most in need—out-of-school youth, homeless youth, youth in foster care, youth aging out of foster care, youth offenders, children of incarcerated parents, migrant and seasonal farmworker youth, and other youth at risk. The Department has not received any reauthorization, so we don't know what the funding split between youth programs will be or what new guidelines will be enacted.

It was noted that the Senate's version of WIA reauthorization incorporates all youth, adult and dislocated worker funds into one "pot". Funds would then be distributed to each state, and it would be at the discretion of the governor to decide on which program(s) to use the funds.

It was recommended that the concerns of these changes be made known to the Workforce Investment Board so some plan of action could be taken to try and protect these program funds. It was also recommended that messages/letters be sent from the Chair to our respective representatives stating the Youth Council's displeasure with the WIA Plus Act because legislators will vote on it on April 14, 2005.

For the May 11th meeting, staff will have a breakdown of how many youth are enrolled in each category.

7. Chair Comments/Roundtable/Future Agenda Items: The Chair noted that unless absolutely necessary, no Youth Council meeting would be canceled. If there are no action items, other issues should be studied and alternatives explored in order for the Youth Council to be an advocate of the youth programs. The Chair would like Youth Council members to take the time to tour our youth programs and become familiar with them.

It was suggested the Council revisit the Teen Summit to see what contribution(s) could be made as a Youth Council. Also try to identify major initiatives in the Merced community involving youth, so the Youth Council can be properly involved and represented.

The Teen Resource Directory that was originally put together by the Youth Council has been revised and updated by the 4-H group. They will possibly attend the June 8, 2005 Youth Council meeting to share the updated information they have received.

8. Date, Time and Location of Next Youth Council Meeting: Next meeting is May 11, 2005, 4:00 p.m., at Merced County Office of Education – Newbold Room, 632 W. 13th Street, Merced.

9. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Devilla D. Knight