

**Workforce Investment Board  
Youth Council Meeting  
UC Cooperative Extension, 2145 Wardrobe Avenue, Merced, CA  
July 13, 2001, 9:00 a.m.  
Meeting Minutes**

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**Members Present:** Barbara Ayers, Bob Bittner, Mary Cavazos, Claudia Corchado, Evelyn Eagleton, Renisse Ferrario, Troy Fox, Kathy Hassett, Mary Jane Hawkes, Jerry Johnson, Charlie Lambert, Noah Pou Lor, Marie Nelson, Suzanne Nunez, Mayra Ramirez, Cynthia Kelly-Reponte, Jean Weaver

**Members Absent:** Lorena Briano, Suzannah Campbell, Robert Harmon, Henry Idefonso, Jeff Knapp, Steve Lundgren, Richard Mahacek, Nellie McGarry (Chair), Jim Newberry, Obie O'Brien, Jack Page, Michael Parker, Mike Smith, Ralph Vigil, Rev. Craig E. White, Sr.

**PITD Staff Present:** Bernedette Castaneda, Dave Davis, Gary Derr, Marta Echevarria, Ed McLaughlin, Dick Skarke

**Others Present:** Isenia Chavez, Cindy Compean, Daryl Dupree, Taide Hernandez, Renee Lambert, Kirsten Lee, Rebecca Lincoln, Jonnie Lucas, Deejah Mansur, Marisol Perez, Lori Strumpf

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1. **Call to Order/Roll Call** – The Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. and roll call was taken.
2. **Approval of Agenda** – It was *M/S/C Lambert/Fox* to approve the agenda as published.
3. **Approval of April Minutes** – It was *M/S/C Lambert/Corchado* to approve the 06/08/01 minutes.
4. **Public Opportunity to Speak** – Evelyn Eagleton was added to the agenda as *Item 7e* to report on the Year-Round-Youth Yearbook Program. It was *M/S/C Hassett/Bittner* to approve the addition to the agenda.
5. **Announcements:**
  - a. Mayra Ramirez reported she recently gave a 45-minute speech regarding her experience with Employment Development Department (EDD) Youth Opportunity Program (YOP) and the Youth Council, to a large group of people at Riverside EDD. The Riverside EDD Manager contacted Mayra recently with good feedback from the conference. They have incorporated Youth Opportunity Program Specialists and mentors to attend their Youth Council meetings because of her speech.
  - b. Mayra Ramirez reported she would be returning to Washington, DC at the end of July, for a follow-up to the National Youth Advisory Council that was formed in April 2001. She hopes the *Voices of Diversity* magazine they have been working on will be published by mid-September of this year. Lori Strumpf will be facilitating the conference.

- c. Evelyn Eagleton presented two students from the Regional Occupations Program (ROP) graphics design class: Julie Ortiz and Pheng Yang, who took pictures of the meeting's activities for the ROP Yearbook.
- d. Dave Davis presented information on a Youth Employment Professionals' meeting in Arlington, VA this September, with instructions to contact him if anyone is interested in attending.

## 6. Information Agenda:

- a. **Reassignment/Consolidation of Committees** – Members were informed of the existing problem of not having quorums during subcommittee meetings. Ideas were shared to resolve the problem. Some voiced their opinion that members should resign from the council or subcommittees if other priorities make attending the meetings a problem for them. It was *M/S/C Reponte/Nunez* to grant authority to the Youth Council Executive Committee to realign/combine the existing five (5) subcommittees to three (3) subcommittees.
- b. **YOP Request Funds, Summer Yearbook** – It was *M/S/C Ayers/Johnson* to fund up to \$3000 (if needed) to aid in the production of the ROP Summer Youth Employment Program (YEP) yearbook. The yearbook will contain highlights from the ROP YEP, Year-Round Youth, and accomplishments and goals of the Youth Council.

## 7. Information Agenda:

- a. **Status of Youth Logo** – The Workforce Investment Board (WIB) decided not to ratify the Youth Council logo until a marketing consultant has been selected to design the WIB logo. WIB members feel this would benefit all involved if the logos have a feeling of synchronicity in their looks. Concerns were raised over changing the look of the Youth Council logo. One of the marketing consultant finalists has offered to work with the designer of the youth logo, to demonstrate and let him experience how professional marketing organizations produce their designs. It was commented it would be a good learning experience for the youth designer. Youth Council members were invited to voice their opinions during the WIB meeting at 3:30 p.m. at the Board of Realtors on July 26, 2001.
- b. **Youth Vista Conference, July 29-31, Sacramento** – Information was provided regarding the Youth Vista 2001 Youth Conference in Sacramento, July 29 – 31, 2001. Members were asked to contact Dave Davis at (209) 385-7324, 2166, if they are interested in attending the conference.
- c. **ARBOR Quarterly Report (Cynthia Kelly-Reponte)** – Information was provided to members regarding ARBOR's client enrollment information, outreach to other agencies, marketing efforts, and the current challenges they are facing. At this point, ARBOR has two (2) WIA barrier requirements that have affected the enrollment process for many of the older youth. The Youth Council Operations Committee is requesting the Youth Council reduce the number of WIA barriers required from two (2) to one (1). (*See Operation Committee's action item on next page.*) It is expected a pending collaboration with the Human Services Agency (HSA) CalWORKs may also help increase the number of older youth enrollments to the program.

- d. **Status of CISCO Academies** – Under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), in order for Delhi and Dos Palos-Oro Loma school districts to receive funding for the CISCO Academies contracts, each district has to provide a detailed budget of start-up equipment and total budget for one year. They were also required to have a percentage of CISCO students eligible for WIA services (Delhi-25%; Dos Palos-16%), although not necessarily enrolled. Additionally, any equipment purchased under this grant will become property of the County. Dos Palos signed the contract and is awaiting Board of Supervisors (BOS) action. Delhi declined however, stating, “the minimal level of funding and maximum number of requirements were not congruent”, and will proceed with complete self-funding of the CISCO Academy.
- e. Evelyn Eagleton reported on Year-Round Youth program. There are currently eight (8) students involved in the development of the Summer Youth yearbook. As mentioned earlier, the yearbook will be covering highlights from the YEP, Year-Round Youth, and Youth Council goals and accomplishments throughout the year.

The current WIA student enrollment in the Year-Round Program is 719, with an additional 184 students being funded through the HSA-CNA grant. Additional staff has been hired due to the program’s success. Cindy Compian and Jonnie Lucas were present to talk about their positive experiences working with the students.

## 8. Committee Chair Reports:

### a. Operations Committee:

- 1) During the meeting, Ralph Vigil mentioned the Merced College Community Forum is interested in assisting the Youth Council with the upcoming Youth Conference.
- 2) Ralph Vigil was nominated as Vice-Chair of the Operations Committee.
- 3) Per earlier discussion, it was *M/S/C Eagleton/Ramirez* to reduce the number of youth’s barriers to employment required to enroll in the older youth program, from two (2) barriers to one (1). This reduction will last until January 31, 2002. At that time the barriers will revert to two (2) instead of the temporary one (1).

### b. Marketing Committee:

- 1) The Youth Resource Directory is beginning to take shape. Committee members and staff have been working to complete it by the beginning of the school year.
- 2) Youth Council logo shirts and other marketing materials have been put on hold until the youth logo has been ratified by the WIB.

### c. Leadership Committee:

- 1) The Leadership Committee did not have a quorum and have rescheduled their meeting for July 23, 2001.
- 2) The Youth Steering Committee met on July 12, 2001, and discussed the youth mottos/messages developed during the last meeting. Youth did not respond well to the suggested mottos and were instructed to come up with messages to bring back to the next meeting.

**d. Planning and Quality Assurance Committee:**

- 1) Richard Mahacek was appointed Vice-Chair of the committee.
- 2) Surveys were distributed to committee members to be given to youth in various summer schools currently in session. Copies of the survey and other related informational worksheets were made available to council members.
- 3) A letter was sent to all Youth Councils requesting their procedures for purchasing asset mapping and gap analysis. There have been no positive responses. The Request for Proposal (RFP) for asset mapping is currently on hold until the results of the survey are final.

**e. Outreach and Education Committee** – Members took a tour of the Castle Challenger Learning Center facilities. They discovered plenty of space for parking and enough space for several breakout sessions. A full-time cook will be available, as well as the use of the Challenger Learning Center and Aviation Center. The conference will probably be held on a Friday through Sunday interval. Tentative plans include:

- Friday – a “mixer” and team building exercise hosted by the Challenger Learning Center
- Saturday - a welcome keynote address and five breakout sessions, an informal dinner and D.J.
- Sunday – Challenger Learning Center’s “Science and Technology Center” will hold a hands-on, science training experience.

Surveys were sent out to 49 Youth Councils requesting any interested attendees to the Youth Conference. There were 11 responses (31 adults and 26 youth) interested in attending the conference. Once plans are finalized, another survey will be sent out again with more information on the conference to generate more attendance. The conference is expected to take place the first or second weekend of March 2002. Troy Fox has volunteered to assist with the youth conference since his department holds annual Youth-to-Youth conferences.

**9. Chair Comments** – None

**10. Other Business** – None

**11. Next Meeting Date and Time** – The next Youth Council meeting is 08/10/01, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., in the UC Cooperative Extension classroom (2145 Wardrobe Avenue, Merced).

**12. Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 9:56 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Marta Echevarria