

Workforce Investment Board of Merced County

Youth Council

Merced County Office of Education – Clark Room

632 West 13th Street, Merced, CA

Wednesday, July 14, 2004, 4:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes



MERCED COUNTY YOUTH COUNCIL

Members Present: Bob Bittner, Stephanie Busbea, Claudia Corchado, Natalie Culver, Evelyn Eagleton, Alexander Hall, Robert Harmon, Kathy Hassett, Mary Jane Hawkes, Taide Hernandez (Vice Chair), Rebecca Lincoln, Nellie McGarry (Chair), Edgar Perez, Vann (Mike) Smith

Members Absent: Ana Andrade, Mary Cavazos, Ben Duran, Rennise Ferrario, Laura Gongora, Charlie Lambert, Richard Mahacek, Kristen Miller, Jim Newberry, Mayra Ramirez, Ralph Vigil, Rev. Craig E. White, Sr.

WI Staff Present: Maria Castro, Dave Davis, Joanne Presnell

1. Call to Order/Roll Call: The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m., and roll call was taken.

2. Approve Agenda: It was *M/S/C Sullivan/Bittner* to approve the agenda as written.

3. Approve Minutes: It was *M/S/C Eagleton/Hall* to approve the June 9, 2004 minutes.

4. Public Opportunity to Speak: None.

5. Announcements:

a. Ms. Evelyn Eagleton provided Youth Opportunity Program handouts for review. Ms. Eagleton also made note that the youth are thriving in the program.

b. The Boys and Girls Club Golf Tournament scheduled for July 16, 2004 at Stevinson Ranch has been cancelled. Ms. Claudia Corchado announced there will be a Comedy Show on July 18, 2004. All proceeds will go to the Boys and Girls Club. National Kids Day will be held on August 1, 2004.

6. Workforce Investment Board Presentation - The Worknet and Economic Development

System: The Workforce Investment Board (WIB) Chair, John Heading, made a presentation about the vision of the WIB and reconnecting the Youth Council to the All Youth-One System process.

7. Action Agenda:

a. **Exemplary Performance Award and Technical Assistance Notification:** It was *M/S/C Hassett/Hall* to concur with the development of locally recognized Workforce Professional credential and forward the completed program to the (WIB) for approval.

b. **Youth Council Goal #1:** The Chair asked Youth Council members to revisit Goal #1 at next Youth Council Meeting.

8. Information Agenda: The Chair asked Youth Council members if there were any questions for the Information Agenda. There were none.

- a. Younger Youth Program Quarterly Report**
- b. Out-of-School Youth (Empower) Program Report**
- c. Application to CA Workforce Investment Board – Innovative Transition Youth Grant**

9. Chair Comments/Roundtable/Future Agenda Items: None.

10. Date, Time and Location of Next Youth Council Meeting: Next meeting is August 11, 2004, 4:00 p.m, at Merced County Office of Education – Clark Room.

11. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Maria Castro

Addendum – The Worknet and Economic Development System

Mr. Headding stated that Merced County Office of Education was bringing the Workforce Investment Board to the table through membership on the Preschool-Post Secondary Education Council (P-16). What has been noted is that there are testing gaps between the socioeconomically disadvantaged versus the advantaged students. Mr. Headding spoke about the skill sets that are required for the existing and emerging industries. Flexible and transferable skills must be identified, jobs will require a high level of education, lifelong learning is valued, there must be the capacity to learn and adapt, and work ethics will be required.

The key barriers for education that have been identified are: 1) Lack of literacy and the resulting social implications, 2) Children attending preschool do better in school, 3) Parental involvement increases student success, and 4) Community awareness, education and action on reforms are needed, to include lobby for preschool funding, business value of and support for public service and volunteerism, literacy, industry as a conduit for school support and information, and create a broader entity such as an intermediary to allow dialogue of all the right players.

An intermediary is an organization or entity that works to attack issues and consists of the right players who have authority to make decisions. Resources are needed to develop such an entity in Merced County. San Bernardino has a model program that includes business, youth, economic development, business leaders and nonprofits. A team from Merced County, including John Headding and Lee Andersen, has spoken with San Bernardino about how their organization was formed and how it operates.

One of the goals of the presentation was to engage the Youth Council and provide input and thoughts in light of the YCI All Youth One System, No Child Left Behind Act and the task of the school districts who are working to improve test scores and address the changes in the educational system.