

Workforce Investment Board of Merced County Youth Council

MC Office of Education, Newbold Room
632 W. 13th Street, Merced, CA

Wednesday, December 10, 2008 – 4-5:30 p.m.

Workgroup Meeting Notes

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



Members Present: Bob Bittner, Martha Dueñas, Alexander Hall, Kathy Hassett, Mary Jane Hawkes, Holly Newlon, Stefani Martinez, Richard Mahacek, Nancy A. Silva, Vann (Mike) Smith

Members Absent: Stephanie Busbea, Claudia Corchado (Vice Chair), Rennise Ferrario (Chair), Taide Hernandez, Rick Osorio, Edgar Perez, Rebecca Rodriguez-Lincoln, Deloris Sharp

Others Present: Patricia Hinson, Alfredo Mendoza

1. Call to Order/Roll Call: At 4:06 p.m., Mr. Alexander Hall was asked to chair the meeting, due to the Chair and Vice Chair not being present. Mr. Hall noted the regular meeting would be canceled due to lack of a quorum. He convened a workgroup 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. Alexander Hall noted Parks and Community Services will have “Breakfast with Santa” on Saturday, December 20, 2008. Session 1: 9 - 10:00 a.m. Session 2: 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Some of the highlights will be: youth games, activities, songs, pictures, and arts & crafts.

Staff noted Ms. Carol Hammond, from the State EDD Office is monitoring the Youth Programs. A report will be presented to the Youth Council at a future meeting.

The Governor’s Office of Emergency Services has made a second round of CalGRIP funding available to California cities. The City of Merced plans to implement a Summer Youth Job Training Program, consisting of employment for a total of 48 youth (ages 15 and 16). The project will be for 24 months. The Department of Workforce Investment will recruit potential youth and provide career assessments that the City of Merced will utilize in the hiring process.

The Department of Workforce Investment is looking at a Youth Build Grant with Dos Palos High School.

The Regional Veterans Grant was not approved.

Department of Workforce Investment in collaboration with Merced College and local manufacturers submitted a grant proposal to the US Department of Labor (DOL) for competitive grant funds for Technology-Based Learning. The grant funding will be used to coordinate technology-based training to employees of existing manufacturers in the local area. Approval is pending.

Ms. Kathy Hassett noted the Merced County Human Services Agency (HSA) will be laying off approximately 35 employees. The Department is doing strategic planning to do more with less.

HSA has partnered with the Probation Department to provide food stamps and medical benefits to youth who are 18 years old and are getting ready to be released from incarceration.

Mr. Richard Mahacek noted Merced County Cooperative Extension will partner with HSA to provide a nutrition program for youth.

A Home Food Production Program will start in January 2009. This Program will train 11 volunteers on gardening. Representatives will be available to provide presentations and answer gardening questions.

The Science and Technology Program has started for youth.

4. Action Agenda:

a. Ad-Hoc Committee to Update Youth Resource Directory: Staff noted the Youth Resource Directory needs to be updated. Members for a new ad-hoc committee will be selected at the next meeting.

5. Information Agenda:

a. LWIA Local Performance Goals for PY 2007/08 and 2008/09: Staff noted the State will determine LWIA performance goals for PY 2008/09 in a subsequent directive, based in part on Department of Labor statewide goals, each LWIA's prior performance, demographic information, client characteristics and regional economics.

b. CWA Youth Conference: The Annual Youth Conference will be January 20-22, 2009, in Long Beach, CA. Ms. Nancy Silva and Mr. Alfredo Mendoza will be attending the conference, and will provide a workshop session regarding the Merced County California Gang Reduction Intervention and Prevention Program (CalGRIP).

c. Youth Council Member Resignation: Ms. Nancy Mendoza resigned from the Youth Council effective October 17, 2008.

6. Chair Comments/Roundtable/Future Agenda Item: Staff noted the Workforce Investment Board held a retreat in November, and will be meeting to discuss new direction for the WIB. This information will assist the Youth Council on coordinating priorities and maintaining on alignment with WIB goals.

Ms. Holly Newlon noted Merced County Office of Education received a small "Irvine Foundation" grant. The purpose is for high school reform called "Multiple Pathways". The goal is to engage students in a career path that gives them the opportunity to stay in school and hopefully have more students enroll in college. MCOE is partnering with Buhach to do an Engineering Pathway, and with Los Banos. Ms. Newlon would like to give a presentation to the Youth Council at a future meeting.

7. Date, Time and Location of Next Youth Council Meeting: January 14, 2009, 4:00 p.m., Merced County Office of Education, J-2 , 632 W 13th Street, Merced.

8. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.