

**NORTHWEST PRIVATE INDUSTRY COUNCIL
YOUTH COUNCIL MINUTES
19 May 2010**

Call to Order

The Northwest Private Industry Council Youth Council meeting was called to order by Chairperson Dixie Holen at the Evergreen Restaurant in Thief River Falls on Wednesday, 19 May 2010 at 5:30 P.M.

Attendance

Youth Council Members present were Kathy Giannonatti, Betty Halvorson, Dixie Holen, Marybeth Kuske, Nancy Stoffel and Darla Swanson.

Guests present were Rodger L. Coauette, NWPIC Executive Director, Amanda Grzadzielewski, NWPIC Assistant Director and Suzan Gagner, NWPIC Administrative Assistant.

Minutes

The minutes of the 17 March 2010 Youth Council meeting were approved as written. Motion to approve minutes by Kathy Giannonatti, second by Marybeth Kuske. Motion carried.

WIA In-School Update (Betty Halvorson)

Betty notified the Council of a new ICCC staff person, Jennifer Person. She will be working out of the Oklee office. ICCC staff is receiving many calls for information regarding summer youth employment. This includes potential participants, schools and worksites. Carry over funding will be spent out by the end of this month, and ARRA funding will be spent out by the end of June, 2010.

Betty and her staff are extremely busy, with being actively engaged with the many grants they are currently involved with.

WIA In-School Demographics/Activities/Expenditures

Rodger noted that Betty has much more up to date information regarding the actual expenditures for the programs. We are currently in a transition period, with the youth programs fiscal year being April 1 through March 31. Some special funding will be spent out by June, with last year's funding having a small balance at this time.

WIA Out-of-School Update (Betty Halvorson)

The WIA Out-of-School update was included in the WIA In-school update. There was no additional information on this item.

WIA Out-of School Demographics/Activities/Expenditures

This report is primarily informational and there was no additional discussion on this item.

Rodger reminded the Council that the NWPIC has chosen ICCC as the program operator for the WIA Out-of-School program for PY 2010. While the NWPIC knew there were some issues with DEED and the Out-of-School program, from a client standpoint, and the recorded vs. actual individual activity of participants, we really did not understand the magnitude of these issues. During the transition from DEED to ICCC, some currently enrolled participants in the ARRA Older youth program were exited from the Out-of-School program and enrolled into the WIA Adult program. Also during this transition, transferred participant files were monitored. It should be noted that during this monitoring it was noticed that over half of the currently enrolled participants had not had actual contact at any point within the last year. Out of nineteen participants that were enrolled in Classroom Training, only four were actually attending school. This information was taken from Workforce One, the states Management Information System. Rodger also noted that interestingly enough, out of the participants that DEED noted as unable to contact, ICCC staff were able to contact four, with the information available in the participants transferred file, and exit them to unsubsidized employment, three of which obtained excellent jobs. Rodger wished to mention this because there is a significant possibility that there will be performance standards issues. John Olson, DEED Youth State Monitor, will be monitoring files the beginning of June at Rodger's request. During this time he will be asked how to minimize negative exits. Rodger also noted that because of the NWPIC Youth program monitoring, the WIA Adult and Dislocated Worker programs will soon be monitored locally. In addition, Rodger has spoken with Byron Bercier, DEED DW and Adult State monitor, and has requested that he monitor those programs.

Dixie stated she felt it would be very appropriate to approach DEED, especially since there has been frustration in the past with regard to accountability. Will there be no accountability again and no repercussions. Rodger stated that the only repercussion will be the loss of programs and that this only reaffirms the decision to change program providers. Rodger also added that there may be an indication that the problems can be attributed to only one DEED staff person, but after monitoring we will know.

Special Youth Programs (Betty Halvorson)

Outreach to Schools – Betty stated that two more schools have had presentations completed. With a year to date total of 11 presentations completed.

Teen Parent Program – The Teen Parent Program received notice of additional funding being allocated. Currently we are at 74% of funding spent. Betty noted that there will be three additional teen parents enrolled in this program shortly.

ARRA Special Youth Project – This project ends 30 June, 2010 and has 97% of the funding spent. While it has been a wonderful project, there were many little parts of this program that needed to be fitted together.

ARRA Youth Supplemental – The Supplemental Grant has approximately 57% of the funding spent at this time.

WIA Youth Incentive – One of the three medical camps are complete. The remaining workshops are scheduled for July, 2010. This funding is being spent according to plan and will be spent out by 30 June, 2010.

Program Year 2010 Local Youth Plan

Rodger stated that the Program Year 2010 Local Youth Plan has been submitted and approved by the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED). This year's plan was primarily narrative, which allowed us to review the entire plan completely. This process went well according to Rodger. This Plan has been posted on the NWPIC website.

Teen Parent Program Extension

Initially the Teen Parent Program allocated \$12,653 to the Northwest Workforce Service Area, with an additional \$6,000 being added to the original allocation. Rodger requested the NWPIC Youth Council authorized Amanda to move forward with this plan. Motion to approve Amanda moving forward with the Teen Parent Program by Kathy Giannonatti, second by Marybeth Kuske. Motion carried.

Program Year 2010 Outreach to Schools

Included in each Council Member's packet were the narrative and work plan portions of the Program Year 2009 Outreach to Schools Plan. Rodger noted that the main question was if the NWPIC Youth Council wished to run the 2010 Outreach to Schools Plan similar to last year's plan. This plan is not due until August, 2010. Betty added that she also has evaluations that have been completed by both presentation participants and teachers, should anyone wish to view them. She also added that should the Council wish for ICCC to proceed as in the past, there will be some updating. Rodger stated that he will designate Amanda to work with Betty on this plan, and suggested they include Murray Turner. Motion to approve proceeding with the Program Year 2010 Outreach to Schools plan by Marybeth Kuske, second by Darla Swanson. Motion carried.

Informational Items

- a. DEED Youth Fund Status Analysis Reports
- b. Program Year 2009 Preliminary Youth Performance
- c. Youth Service with WIA Recovery Act Resources
- d. Teen Parents Served with WIA Recovery Act Resources
- e. Summary Comparison of Minnesota WIA Performance
- f. Child Trends Fact Sheet

Rodger also noted that included in each packet was the 2010 MnCareers Supplement. This publication is given to all program participants as well as students involved in the Outreach to Schools projects. In addition, classroom training funding amounts are based upon whether or not the occupation is in demand in Northwest Minnesota.

Other

Rodger mentioned that the proposal of one billion dollars for summer youth employment programs is still being discussed at the Federal level.

Also, there is a bill being discussed that would fund summer employment for primarily TANF households, with the estimated allocation for Northwest Workforce Service Area being around \$141,000. This funding may not be used towards staff or administration. There is no federal approval of this funding as of to date. Betty noted she was not sure how much of this funding ICCC would be able to spend, but that they would most certainly try their hardest. Approximately fifty youth could be served with this funding, and once Betty had broken down this funding by county it was not so intimidating. Rodger asked the NWPIC Youth Council to allow the NWPIC to support ICCC with this funding, should it become available. Motion to approve the NWPIC supporting ICCC with this funding by Darla Swanson, second by Marybeth Kuske. Motion carried.

Rodger noted, should this funding become available, it will happen fast.

Future Meetings

The next meeting of the NWPIC Youth Council is scheduled for Wednesday, 21 July 2010 at 5:30 P.M. at the Evergreen Restaurant in Thief River Falls.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by Dixie Holen at 7:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzan M. Gagner
NWPIC Administrative Assistant