



Yolo County Workforce Investment Board

25 N. Cottonwood Street
Woodland, CA 95695
(530) 661-2750
(530) 661-2658 FAX

One-stop Career Center Locations:

Woodland
25 N. Cottonwood St.
(530) 661-2750

West Sacramento
500-A Jefferson Blvd., Suite 110
(916) 375-6300

YOLO COUNTY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD YOLO YOUTH OPPORTUNITY COUNCIL RETREAT MINUTES March 21, 2006

I. Roll Call

The Yolo County Workforce Investment Board Yolo Youth Opportunity Council meeting convened on March 21, 2006 at 3:45 p.m. at the Yolo County Office of Education, 1280 Santa Anita Court, Woodland, California with the following people attending:

Present: Ronda Adams, Estella De La Torre, John Eldred, Sherri Kent-Roberts, Jessica Larsen, Tom Lawson, Bina Lefkovitz, Liliana Martin, Gayle McLevich, Michele Moore, Andy Paul, Roberta Paul, Lori Perez, Ron Piña, Panna Putnam, Karen Quintanilla, Vicki Rich, Vania Sanchez, Judy Simas, and Rogelio Villagrana,

Absent: Angela Angel, Jorge Ayala, Blanca Barba, Chris Blackman, Debbie Carrion, Susan Cassady, Marcia Corrigan, Alejandra Diaz, Pam Duey, Michael Gangitano, Victoria Gilley, Dave Heller, Sandy Johnson, Elizabeth Jones, Constance Lucero, Diane Moreno, Carol Neal, Judy Needham, Ashley Peceimer, Susan Purcell, Mary Renteria, Angelica Saragoza, Alvin Singh, and Mike Webber

Staff: Viola DeVita

No quorum

II. Welcome and Introductions

Welcome and Introductions completed.

- Ronda Adams– Associate Superintendent of Educational Services at YCOE and Chair of the YYOC. Ronda asked about what exciting things the group had done that day. Ronda met with managers – 21 of them – had a fabulous networking time. ROP, Youth Services, Foster Youth Services gave a special focus presentation. Head Start wants to embrace ROP and Special Education wants to look into the work ready certificate.
- Lori Perez, YCOE, her exciting thing was that she received a \$2500 donation from PG&E to support lunch for the CCYC. During the conference there will be a presentation of *Meet the Pro's* at lunch. Students sit in groups of ten and business speaks to them about life experience and leadership skills. Lori is reaching out to the YYOC to commit from 12:00 to 1:00 at WCC to help inspire the youth. They will get a free lunch. Lori announced that she's been appointed to the Latino Youth Conference and she's found that the registration went out to schools and they haven't received the registrations back. Renee Sosa Galindo sent them out.
- Michelle Moore – YCOE, ROP teacher for Careers in Educational Child Development, CCYC, she is excited because it is a great conference and she got fairgrounds for free. Also a donation from private business man – Tom Eaton, Eaton Drilling \$250.
- Gayle McLevich, YCOE, Director of ROP, does outreach to different Chambers for internships. Gayle had a positive experience at the Davis Chamber of Commerce.

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- Jessica Larson, YCOE Foster Youth Services was able to get a new young boy's information within an hour (60 + pages). Thanks to John Eldred for coming out to YCOE to do interviews so Jessica doesn't have to go all the way to Sacramento.
- Vicki Rich, Davis Senior High School, Resource Specialist, Coordinator of WorkAbility was excited about having the WRC interviews almost set up. The panel is two-thirds of the way full. Interviews are on April 6. Vicki announced that Ashley is in Washington DC. Ashley's personal highlight is that she's working at Bernardo's in Davis. She's sorry she couldn't be here.
- Panna Putnam is excited that two more students have gotten into college as a result of her counseling. Six out of eight. Panna noted that Chris Blackman arranged a job shadow for the youth mentoring.
- Rogelio Villagrana, Deputy Siefertman Jr., Board of Supervisors, presented a resolution in honor of César Chávez. The Leadership Conference Saturday; April 27 *Day of the Children*. He received donations. Selling raffle tickets also.
- Tom Lawson, AFLCIO shared that the Chair made a presentation to the WIB regarding Lori. Tom thought it was a great tribute. Tom had an opportunity to work with César Chávez and to disagree on some things. Tom wanted to say that César was a great mentor. Joe Serna who served as a union activist with César Chávez along with Dwayne Campbell, sociology professor. César Chávez had an engaging process with farm workers and mentoring was part of that. Caesar was a great leader and a great mentor of people. Tom served under the Caesar Chavez park committee.
- Ally Diaz, announced a César Chávez march on March 25 starting at 10:00a.m. She will walk for 8 hours.
- Lilliana Sanchez is also going on the César Chávez march.
- Vania, a junior at River City High School will also march. She passed the test for English next year.
- Estella De La Torre was able to connect with a parent of one of the students.
- John Eldred, Sacramento Job Corp. Appreciates Stella and Tom for all they're doing.
- Sherri Kent Roberts. Outreach Administrator and Career Preparation Superintendent, announced that Peter Gregerson has moved to Virginia. Sherri's husband may be the new center director but Sherri will have to leave her position. Her exciting news is that her daughter is a 4.0 student who was struggling in geometry but was able to raise it to an A.
- Karen Quintanilla migrant education. She works in five school districts. Her exciting thing of the day was that the sunshine was inviting and so she pulled weeds.
- Bina Lefkowitz, YSPN says that this is the highlight of her day. She wants to make more presentations to policy bodies.
- Andy Paul, YSPN, had a group appreciation today.
- Roberta Paul, DESS, had her first ILP meeting today. ILP used to be with child welfare. There is an opportunity to pick up transitional housing. There appears to be \$2300 per person for transition. Foster youth will be eligible. Roberta will get more information to us as she learns the ILP program and its requirements.

III. Statement from Public and Visitors

No statements

IV. Agenda Items

A. Review and Approval of January 17, 2006 Meeting Minutes

As there was no quorum, approval of the January 17, 2006 minutes was held over to next meeting.

B. Youth Services Provider Network

Bina Lefkowitz and Andy Paul presented Improving Outcomes for Youth Using a Youth Development Approach – Helping Youth Become Ready by 21 for College, Work, and Life. Their mission is to strengthen youth practitioners and community organizations in fostering the development of the whole child. They are working with core group of educators. Also meeting with a Faith-based network – ACT (Action by Churches Together).

YSPN is trying to strengthen systems through their 50-hour institute. Youth Development Institute was developed by CNYD (Community Network for Youth Development) in San Francisco. They also provide action plans and coaching to make sure it's implemented. The evaluation stated that youth attendance is up in their trainings/meetings.

Michele Gambone helps agencies look at what they do for youth.

YSPN has a how to guide book for young people "Engaging Youth". In the middle there are survey's and assessment tools. In the back there is a list of agencies and their contact information. Human development institute was developed.

YSPN provides help with mini grant process. They're helping Sierra Health with their mini grant programs.

They have policy work/resource alignment. This year they're pushing youth engagement. Four youth have been hired this year. They are creating youth forums and speaking opportunities.

Youth development is a process consisting of documented practices; a body of research (40 assets), an approach (what do we do as providers to help them in the process).

There has been a shift in philosophy. All youth need support and interventions. At risk youth often lack access to intervention that other youth might have. It's about relationships and not about programs; it's more about engaging youth.

Do we have family friendly policies? Are we collecting the data that tells us how well we're supporting young people?

The Need: Well-Prepared Youth. The public surveys show that the soft skills are important and not just the academic skills.

The framework: Youth Development Framework for Practice. We want youth to be economically self-sufficient; have healthy family/social relationships and that they contribute to the community. To get them there the youth must be prepared. Learn how to be productive, connected, and to navigate.

Youth Development Practices: Support and Opportunities. Research says youth who get these five things will become successful adults:

- Safety: emotional and physical
- Relationship: building guidance, emotional support, practical support, knowledge of youth
- Youth participation: input and decision making, opportunities for leadership, sense of belonging
- Community involvement: ability to impact community, knowledge of community
- Skill building: challenging, interesting.

All youth do better the more support they get, which sums up the 40 developmental assets as well. We're preparing youth to avoid choices that are risky. Young people with more

developmental assets engage in fewer high-risk behaviors (out of 10 that are measured) than youth with fewer assets.

The Healthy Kids Survey is administered. It is a statewide survey given to 5th, 7th, and 11th grade students that measure whether they get caring relationships; if they have high expectations; and meaningful participation if they are given the opportunities to participate and make decisions.

Youth involvement and challenging and engaging activities need improvement.

The framework ‘Community Strategies’ think about how to implement these:

- Engage Stakeholders/Public Will
- Agree on common outcomes and accountability measures.
- Better Coordinate Services
- Improve quality of programs
- Engage Families and Youth
- Expand opportunities for youth.
- Align policies and leverage resources.

Bina provided the SCAN skills by the department of labor.

Tom asked what geographic area they serve. YSPN serves 6-7 counties. Most of them are in Sacramento County. The last two years they’ve tried to outreach more into the other counties.

Tom also asked if other communities are getting involved. Bina confirmed that they are presenting to other counties.

Bina will send out the survey.

Rogelio asked why youth younger than 21 are not served. Bina answered that when a young person turns 18 they’re not ready to just be “cut loose”. There is research that shows that if young people aren’t working and don’t have strong relationships it’s difficult for them to become productive.

C. WIB Budget Proposal

Ronda announced that the WIB has provided funding for youth services in YYOC. Roberta Paul has been instrumental in assisting us. Roberta helped YYOC with the budget as well as the WIB staff and the board.

Ronda brought attention to the letter from Ken Garrett of the financial planning committee; the mentoring description – part of the planning today is to look at the programs that we’re sustaining and to look at the outcomes to ensure that we’re making a difference. Ronda also pointed out the Project Budget worksheet. The committee was reminded of the All Youth One System and leveraging resources meetings that we had. Ronda asked what happened at the WIB on this. Roberta says that we were really behind on this. Need to look at what it looks like for 06-07. The WIA funding has taken significant cuts. They’ve lost a little over \$1million in funding. There is another 15% reduction on the table for next year. If we need to leverage employment and training funds, please contact representatives to return the money allocated.

Tom says there were four letters, signed by the board, sent to two senators. We may want to do something similar on the YYOC letterhead. They will be looking at the larger areas. Tom thinks what is happening in legislation is an injustice to the displaced Americans and the youth. Tom reported that this is a very functional body in the community that could go away. The WIB has a template – Roberta will send the template to Viola who will remit to the YYOC.

Ronda asked if we should submit a budget report for the 06-07 year. There will be a proposed budget that goes to the WIB in May. We'll send it so it's incorporated in the May planning. Viola will work with Roberta's office on how it's to be submitted.

D. Subcommittee breakout planning sessions

Ronda gave instructions on how the subcommittees are going to break out and have a working dinner. Refresh our memory on goals which are in the March 15, 2005 retreat. First activity is to look at goals for this year and do a recap.

Committees:

College/Career Youth conference Subcommittee, Michele Moore, Chair; Lori Perez, Co-chair

Work Ready Certificate subcommittee, Gayle McLevich, Chair

Ronda is concerned about business involvement in the WRC.

Leadership, Ronda Adams, Chair. It's very important to discuss a parent of WIA eligible youth and WIB accountability and reporting

Resource Mapping/Transition subcommittee, Jessica Larsen, Chair; John Eldred Co-chair.

Tom confirmed that there are currently 13 for quorum and if he leaves and another voting member will make a quorum

E. Dinner

F. Sub Committee Report out

Resource Mapping/Transition

» Jessica, Tom, John, and Sherri

Recap: one of their goals was to have Yolo Link present.

Jessica asked what our requirements are for resource mapping – Roberta will check.

Another goal was to identify resources that are lacking. The transition services are lacking.

They'd like to refocus to research transition services and possibly change their subcommittee name. They discovered that transition services are required by all youth. They would like to

develop a teaching tool or curriculum that can help all youth, regarding housing and budgeting. It can be a tool that everyone can use regarding life skills and transition skills.

Michele noted that CRV sent her information. Jessica would like more of a hands-on kind of tool.

One goal is to develop or adopt a transition curriculum. Ronda says at the May meeting we will redefine goals.

Leadership

» Ronda, Tom, Roberta

Current status WIB budget process. Viola will work with WIB staff and incorporate our 06-07 request so it will be at the WIB meeting.

Second: We have a YYOC brochure; Steve Roberts has worked on this with us. There is a draft that has been sent to our office. Each of your committees will be able to share these. They can be used as a tool to recruit new members for YYOC and the WIB. We should see a final copy by May.

Mandated partners: the only one left is a parent. Probation has sporadic attendance. Susan is the key to probation. YYOC and YCOE have a goal to reach out to probation as more of a partner.

***Michele has been asked to provide some sort of security this year for the CCYC ***

Roberta suggested that RISE Inc. may have an idea of a parent.

Roberta will ask David Serena with YCHA about a parent of WIA eligible youth.

Current status mentors: a description was developed. We'll want to continue this and would like to recruit mentors and those to be mentored in all five areas in Yolo County.

We need more resources. We are looking at the transitions; WRC; Youth conference – all need mentors.

Work Ready Certificate

- » Ron and Vicki reported that Gayle will continue with last years goals. Increase student and employer visibility and commitment by student and employer. Long term goal is to increase visibility and commitment.

Will have to speak at least once to each of the chambers and write one newsletter and a parent newsletter.

They will write articles in the chamber newsletter and are getting information on list serves.

Davis Senior High School has list serves developed for each grade level of parents.

The committee will work with business education committees and One Stops. Judy Simas is interested in learning more about the WRC.

Judy Simas commented that she's seen an increase in visibility at Woodland High School through the ROP program and more umbrella groups are adopting the WRC. Ronda reminded them that we need to capture the information as an accountability piece to the WIB.

Gayle McLevich said that Judy and Michele present WRCs. Davis Chamber awards WRCs in front of the entire chamber. West Sacramento had an awards dinner.

Roberta confirmed that all certificates are given out by the end of the school year. Roberta would like them to be included in the WIB celebration of success which is May 18.

Ronda requested a report on how each community celebrates the WRC. Possibly there can be a special addition of the YYOC Newsletter

College and Career Youth Conference

- » Lori, Stella, Victoria, and Judy

Long term goal is to continue to improve youth participation on subcommittee and the event.

They want to include leadership development workshops at the event. Their group wants to have a retreat by November to be focused on youth leadership within the subcommittee.

They could schedule this from 4-7 p.m.

Recap: current conference planned for May 11, 06 at Yolo County Fairgrounds.

Representation from Davis; Madison; Esparto High Schools. Michele represents YCOE and tried to pull in Woodland High School, Pioneer High School, River City High School, and also several community partners. All invitations have been sent to vendors – invitations to schools are going out. Lori states she worked very well with Judy Needham being on the committee. She's also worked with Jamie who's been great at getting the flyers out. Thanks to DESS for so much help. Vicki says that the Davis chamber is putting the invitation out to their members.

Recommendations: Rogelio recommended youth development leadership workshops at the event.

Lori says would they would like to have one or two youth from each school working on the event. Lori will also go out to Jr Highs regarding their WRC and would they like to be part of the planning process of the CCYC as part of their community service requirement.

Panna will do "Road to College" and Jessica will do the transitions workshop – which was requested by the committee.

Discussion:

Panna suggested that we take a chance to look at what YSPN presented today. Michele said they did speak intensively to Andy Paul who has offered to help plan the retreat. Jessica announced that all of YSPN's trainings are youth led.

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Karen believes it was very good but very rushed. She just noticed that Sierra Health offers many grants. They pay for services that LEED can offer as a trainer. She believes there are three different levels of grants. There is a meeting on April 4th or 6th regarding how to access the money. Last year Sierra Health lacked enough applicants to expend all of their funding.

Panna attended a meeting a couple of weeks ago regarding the Sierra Health grant and transition seems to be the big piece. They are targeting elementary school thru Jr High. Another definition is 20,000 population or more. First year funding is \$75,000 just for planning. Then three years of \$300,000 piece. Panna said there are about eight counties looking at this.

Ronda shared that Panna already has it in place for West Sacramento and Esparto. She's working in Emerson and Holmes so she would need someone else to expand. If West Sacramento gets it, we would have all five districts getting the mentoring services. It's for ages 10-15.

Another piece is the Diploma Plus. It's a huge transition piece. It will be between \$100,000 and \$300,000. It's specifically for students that are or will be out of school youth. It's a model from MA. They are only funding two projects in California this year and next year. New Ways to Work was the technical assistance for CS² and the YYOC start up. Dr Ayala is willing to put a module facility at the Midtown site. It will be a six classroom facility opened in August of 2007. Graduating students would get a diploma from YCOE. The tentative name is Einstein Educational Center. Students would get a diploma plus they'd be earning college credits. They need to learn the material and show that they've passed it on the competency. The school districts will need to guarantee that they will help in recruiting.

The directors of student service are on board. It's been written into the AB 922 expulsion plan to address the four gap areas. YCOE will put up half of the money for FTEs and the school districts will come up with the other half. There are about 30% of students in Yolo County who are at risk of dropping out. During the first year the school should have 100 students involved and the second year 200 students. Math, Science, English, Social Studies will be offered. It's up to us to design it and implement it. Ronda has reported in the letter of intent that the youth council will be the advisory committee. DESS can also be referring young people who are out of school. Viola will send out the letter of intent to the YYOC.

Next meeting to be held in YCOE's Woodland Conference Room from 3:30 – 5:00

May 16, 2006

V. Adjournment

With no further business Dr. Ronda Adams, Chair, adjourned the meeting of the Yolo Youth Opportunity Council at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Viola DeVita