



**Shared Youth Vision Council
New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development
1 John Fitch Way
Trenton, NJ 08625
Thursday, February 26, 2015
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome new members and special guest SETC Director's Remarks

Kirk Lew from the State Employment Training Commission (SETC) called the meeting to order at 10:10 am. The February 26, 2015 Shared Youth Vision Council (SYVC) meeting was held at the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development building in Trenton NJ. The meeting minutes from the November 13th, 2014 SYVC meeting minutes were sent to members electronically for their review. The council was asked if there were any issues, problems or concerns with the meeting minutes. There were no issues presented to the council at this time and the meeting minutes were presented for formal approval by the council. Mr. Robert Mercado gave the first motion to accept the meeting minutes and they were seconded by Mr. John MacKay. All members of the council voted to accept the minutes; there were no objections.

II. Review of SYVC WIOA Youth Recommendations to SETC

On June 2014, the SYVC approved 5 strategic recommendations that would be presented to the SETC commission for policy considerations. The SYVC's youth recommendations for WIOA were unanimously approved by the council and were set for presentation at the February meeting. Unfortunately, the SETC commission meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather (snow). The recommendations will be presented to the SETC commission at the March 17th meeting. The SYVC will be updated on the status of the recommendations at the next meeting scheduled for June 4th 2015.

III. NJLWD - WIOA Blueprint and Implementation

Patricia Moran is the Executive Director of the NJLWD Workforce Grants and Program Management made a presentation to the Shared Youth Vision Council on the foundational operational concepts towards the implementation of Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Patricia reviewed LWD priorities which are; Reemployment, Opportunity, Alignment and Accountability. Patricia discussed the seven workgroups created by LWD which are; Youth, Disabilities, Career Pathways, Governance/Planning, Performance, and One Stop Operations.

Patricia discussed the importance of career pathways, which is the other WIOA blueprint workgroup she is currently leading for NJLWD. Patricia sees synergy between the topics being

discussed in both workgroups. Patricia Jordan took over the discussion on behalf of Patricia Moran, and went into greater depth around the five priorities developed with the youth workgroup.

1. Recruitment and retention of WIOA eligible youth.
2. Career readiness, a focus on meaningful career related training
3. Increased Accountability across training programs to improve outcomes.
4. Change in funding and service procurement

During the discussion about career readiness, the need to dedicate 20 % of WIOA youth funds was brought up. We discussed the use of internships, externships and building on employer engagement. One of the ways to provide youth with experiential learning opportunities is through pre-apprenticeships. Some of the council members wanted more detailed information about both the pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship models. Donna Scalia from USDOL apprenticeship and John McKay who represents the carpenters union training facility was able to give the council more information. Pre-apprenticeship models which would most relate to WIOA youth, comes in a variety of programs. They all give training and instruction that is concurrent with experiential learning opportunities. Some programs focus on a particular career choice, while other programs give the youth a wider array of experiences. LWD will be back for the next SYVC meeting on June 4th, to discuss their operational recommendations for youth programs and services under WIOA. The recommendations will be shared with the SYVC prior to being presented to the SETC commission.

IV. SETC/DOE Youth Symposiums Evaluations

Padma Armand, the director of New Jersey's Health Care Talent Network presented on the youth symposiums program evaluations. Padma reviewed the goals and objectives of the 10 youth symposiums throughout the state. The program's evaluations were based on student and teacher feedback, which was obtained after each symposium. Padma received a total of 428 surveys from students and teachers. Over 50 % of the students indicated an interest in learning more about careers and found the information they received to be useful. There were some local areas where the students and teachers lacked an understanding of why they were attending the symposium. Some youth were expecting to attend a job fair. Based on the feedback, Padma and her staff were able to develop the following recommendations for future youth symposiums.

- Youth Symposiums need to be interacting and engaging
- Local areas awarded grant funds to host youth symposiums should be allowed to pre-symposium prep time with each participating school.
- Pre-test students to gauge their interest and provide data.
- Talent Networks should remain in a consultative role.
- Comprehensive follow up and streamlined survey tool across each local area and their participating schools.

V. Local Area Social Media Policy

Mr. Leigh Carter explained that his local area freeholders, (Morris/Sussex/Warren) are still reviewing the proposed social media policy. The SYVC mentioned using M/S/W social media policy as a promising practice, once it is passed.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm.

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 4th, 2015, New Jersey Dept. of Labor and Workforce Development. Trenton, NJ 08625