

Dakota County Youth Council
2 February 2007
8:30 – 10:00 a.m.
MN WorkForce Center
2900 County Road 42
Burnsville MN 55337

Mission: *To provide leadership and support to community partners in fostering the educational and employment success of youth.*

Vision: *Developing successful youth with progressive career opportunities.*

Members Present: Kari Davis, Michelle Rydeen, Rick Gubash , Ann Glaves, Norm Champ, Shannan Boodoo, Nicole Crews, Regan Warren, Beth Olson, Joyce Eissingner, Ruth Lawrence, Will Branning, Mel Henderson

Members Absent:, Mike Cook, Tanesha Ford, , LaDonna Boyd, Ruth Fonstad, Virginia Becker, Suzanne Sheridan

Staff: Marguerite Kirchoff

Guests: Scott Beatty and Chris Klejbuk of (Youth Intervention Programs Associations) YIPA, Sharmyn Phipps of Extension

Call to Order:

Kari called the meeting to order at 8:34. Minutes from January meeting were reviewed and approved as follows:

Motion- Shannan; **second** - Rick

YIPA

Scott Beatty talked about his organization and cited connections that they have with various individuals on the YC. YIPA is an umbrella organization that works with agencies who young people who are just starting to get into trouble. Their effort of these 54 agencies is to re-engage them with school or work and community. They have created a Youth Policy Alliance with other youth serving organizations in the Metro, including MN Youth Services Association, Out of School Time, MN Workforce Council Association, MN Alliance with Youth and the Mentoring Partnership of MN and others. Citing the cost-effectiveness of intervention , Scott described a project in the planning stages called “Kids Change” which will raise public awareness of intervention programs. Scott also told the group about YIPA’s policy initiatives for 2007. A copy of the handout is included herewith.

Budget

The YC reviewed spending for 2006 and, based on that and projected needs for 2007 approved the following allocations : Member training/development - \$1,000; Council meeting expenses - \$500; Outreach efforts - \$1500; Program support - \$3,000. This budget was approved Motion –Norm; Second – Mel.

Plan of Work

The Ambassador Project has been extended through June. This will allow Meegen Carra at Simley High School and Laura Mootz, new Ambassador at Shakopee High School to complete projects and reach more young people. There is funding in the Governor’s budget for 2007 for this project to continue.

Marguerite attended a produce demonstration of “ Touch Inspire” at the Northern Service Center. This product is a touch screen tool for career exploration which seems most appropriate for young users. More news in the future about this.

Marguerite and Rick will, once again, man the Zone booth at the Burnsville High School Career Fair on February 12.

The Dakota County Library is sponsoring a series of three workshops for youth on “Landing a Summer Job” More information as this unfolds.

Commissioner’s Report

Commissioner Branning has been busy meeting with legislators around housing and transportation issues. He has a meeting later today with the new Commissioner of DEED Dan McElroy whom Commissioner Branning knows well.

Scott County Report

Beth spoke about the great work her new Ambassador is doing already. She is working with some potentially challenging

youth and is doing very well. Beth will let her build the Zone in the Shakopee WorkForce Center. Everything is ready to go with that. They are just waiting on the banners.

Contractor Report

- ETC - absent
- Job Service - absent
- Tree Trust – Norm again reminded members to use their constituency to appeal to state legislators to restore MYP funding. He distributed lists of key committee members and said that information as to how many individuals receive MYP services in any senate district is available on the State of MN web site. <http://www.deed.state.mn.us/LegisProfiles/> Tree Trust will offer their application as usual beginning March 1st with the usual program start date of mid June.

Other Announcements

Members of the Youth Council were invited to travel to Safe Haven for Youth to meet staff and youth and have a tour of the facility and a Q&A session with director Dan Saad.

Next Youth Council meeting is Friday, March 2, 2007, 8:30-10:00 a.m. at the Burnsville WorkForce Center, 2900 Co Road 42, Burnsville MN 55337. At this meeting we will hear the recommendation of the RFP committee and select a provider(s) for Program Year 2007. Please let Marguerite know if you still need a map or directions to the Burnsville WorkForce Center.