

**1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Tony Maldonado called the meeting to order at 8:50 a.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**2. Roll Call: Quorum (5)**

**Present:**

- (1) Patrick Burkhart
- (2) Bob Neckes (T)
- (3) Tony Maldonado
- (4) Leah Palmer
- (5) Ignacio Pesqueira

**Absent:**

Angelo Maisto

**Partners**

- |   |  |
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| <p><b>ACYR</b><br/>         Sharlet Barnett<br/>         Adam Soto</p> <p><b>YMCA / Las Artes</b><br/>         Michael Graser<br/>         Eric James</p> | <p><b>VSUW Aspire</b><br/>         Philip Popovich</p> <p><b>GOODWILL</b><br/>         Devin Hearn<br/>         Dayna Graser</p> |
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**Guests**

Irma Hollamby

**Staff**

- Aaron Sneddon
- Rudy Barcelo
- Aaron Roth
- Karen Rosan
- Kristen Merser
- Laurie Ontiveros
- Bill O'Brien
- Curtis Shaw

**3. Approval of Meeting Minutes** – It was noted to correct Dayna Graser as a partner with Goodwill, not YMCA. It was also noted to correct a grammatical error of the word “higher” to “hired” on the second page. The November 17<sup>th</sup> 2011 minutes were approved as corrected by a motion from Patrick and second by Tony.

**4. Youth Council Nominations – Action Item**

- a. **Al Ford, Center Director Phoenix Job Corps Center** would be replacing Che' Collins who had accepted an opportunity abroad. In Al's absence, Patrick referred to his resume and explained that Al's experience included several years of Job Corps leadership and service in the armed forces.
- b. **Irma Hollamby, Administrator, Housing Authority of Maricopa County** introduced herself and talked about her experience as a representative of the housing authority community. Patrick and Irma have served on task forces together. Irma provides leadership to several administrative functions and is a commissioner on the Parents Drug Education and Prevention Program.

*Patrick made a motion to approve the nominations of Al Ford and Irma Hollamby, Leah seconded the motion, new Youth Council members were approved.*

**5. MWC Youth Provider Reports– For Information Only**

- a. **ACYR** – Sharlet reported that the Youth Leadership Council is planning a Town Hall meeting. The council surveyed youth at the ‘First Friday’ event in November to research youth town hall interests. Volunteers had the opportunity to participate in the Fiesta Bowl Parade, and helped with food distribution at Friendly House and Habitat for Humanity. ACYR is working on a distribution linguistics program. The first program was very successful with 5 participants now gainfully employed, ACYR is exploring starting a another program.
- b. **Goodwill** – Participant Tara Bullock spoke about her experience with the Goodwill program. Over the past 2 years, Tara has participated in the summer youth work experience, as a youth offender, and now as an adult at age 20. Tara said the Goodwill program helped her get her life together. She is going to school for medical assisting and will transfer to Gateway to be an ultrasound technician. She is pursuing a Certified Medical Assistant (CMA) degree and is getting all A's (hasn't gotten a grade below 98%). Tara added that her boyfriend is also in the program pursuing an automotive certification so they share transportation and motivate each other.

- c. **ASPIRE** – Phil reported that VSUW is working with AWEE and beginning a monthly newsletter. Bill O'Brien suggested that the newsletter being distributed to Workforce PIO, Dawn Zimmer, at [zimmerd@mail.maricopa.gov](mailto:zimmerd@mail.maricopa.gov). They have some new case managers so they are at full capacity. Valley of the Sun United Way is assisting with JAG. Market on the Move students are coming in and volunteering. Friendly House efforts are on-going. Chicanos Por La Casa has 7-8 participants entering the Aspire program. Phil explained that the Aspire program is a cohort of agencies (AWEE, JAG, Chicanos Por La Casa, and Tumbleweed) administered by VSUW. Leah offered to help build partnerships with her east valley colleagues and asked Phil to reach out to her at [lpalmer@mesacc.edu](mailto:lpalmer@mesacc.edu).
- d. **YMCA Las Artes** – Michael and Eric reported that enrollment is up at 95 with a goal of 200 by FY end. Have completed 39 GEDs and have a new GED test instructor. They are looking at this as the year of change and progress. Eric said he participated in the Martin Luther King Jr. event and the First Saturday events in Glendale. They also completed a 16x15 ft. mural in downtown Glendale on the side of [BITZ-EE MAMA'S](#) restaurant. Advantage Logistics hired one participant out of 2 that completed the work experience. Las Artes was chosen to present at a YMCA-USA event in February in San Antonio, Texas. Bill suggested sending this information to Dawn Zimmer at [zimmerd@mail.maricopa.gov](mailto:zimmerd@mail.maricopa.gov). Tony suggested that a broader focus may make the program appealing to wider audiences. Leah congratulated Eric on the program success and asked what he thought stood out to receive the national recognition. Eric wasn't sure, but said he thought the program was a very good platform for any large city or urban area. Drugs, gangs, and teenage pregnancies contribute to drop-out rates, but the program is good when youth choose it. Dayna added that youth may be bright and get bored – many don't fit the mainstream and don't have the support to keep going with it.

**6. Call to the Public** – Patrick noted that performance measures will be addressed at the next meeting.

- a. The Youth Council still needs a parent and youth participant.
- b. DES reviews performance annually using 17 measures total including youth performance. MWC did not reduce measures during the recession as other agencies did, but missed only one performance target for older youth earnings. A modified performance plan is being created to readjust the measure. MWC had the highest performance target and results in the state. Would like partners to reach out to a broader range of employers willing to pay above minimum wage.
- c. Congress passed an appropriation just before the holidays which included a small decrease for WIA and the Youth Program, but allocation is expected to be about the same as this year.
- d. Bill announced that Laurie Ontiveros accepted a new position with MWC and will be more focused on contracts. Bill thanked Laurie for her insight and phenomenal performance supporting youth contractors.

**7. Adjournment**

Chair Maldonado adjourned the meeting at 9:45 a.m.