

**MARICOPA WORKFORCE CONNECTIONS
YOUTH COUNCIL
Maricopa County Human Services Department
234 North Central, Suite 3201, Phoenix, AZ 85004
Arizona Conference Room
Minutes
January 19, 2010**

I. Call to Order

Tony Maldonado called the meeting to order at 8:42 a.m.

II. Roll Call: Quorum

Present	Excused/Absent	Staff
Patrick Burkhart	Che Collins	Kimberly Faust
Julie Estrada (T)	Dennis Ichikawa	Karen Rosen
Randy Kimmens (T)	Bob Neckes	Todd Berndt
Angelo Maisto		Trina Jenkins
Tony Maldonado		Barb Rorwick
Sheryl McCutchen		Dawn Zimmer
Kaci McCutchen		Rudy Barcelo
Ignacio Pesqueira		Laurie Ontiveros
		Tina Schoville
		Guests
		Mike Graser – Las Artes
		Sharlet Barnett –ACYR
		Julie Sater – VSUW
		Adam Soto – Call A Teen
		Larry Stevenson – GICA

Deleted: Barnett -

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes — Action Item

Julia Estrada made a motion to approve the minutes from November 19, 2009. Angelo Maisto seconded the motion. The motion carried.

IV. Election of Youth Council Chair — Action Item

Patrick Burkhart shared that with Don Smith’s departure last Fall Tony Maldonado has been serving as the interim Chair, since the role of the Vice Chair is to step in for the Chair, in the Chair’s absence. At this time it would be prudent to formally move him into the position of Chair. Tony has done a wonderful job and has been very active and engaged member of the Youth Council. **Patrick Burkhart made a motion to formally install Tony Maldonado as Chair of the Youth Council. Angelo Maisto seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

V. Election of Youth Council Vice Chair — Action Item

Patrick reported that the role of the Vice Chair is to serve in absence of the Chair, which involves coordinating and holding meetings and sometimes strategizing on matters for this council. Ignacio Pesqueira shared that he was laid off his job in December and he is aware that he has to have full time employment, which he is seeking at this time, but that he would like to be considered for this position. Patrick shared that since no other members are interested in this position, he recommends that the Chair consider bringing Ignacio on as an Interim Vice Chair at this time. **Patrick Burkhart made a motion to elect Ignacio Pesqueira as an Interim Vice Chair and we can readdress the permanency at a future meeting. Angelo Maisto seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

VI. Strategic Planning — For Information Only

Patrick shared that in the last two months he has spent time looking through all sorts of data, trends, projections and forecasts trying to get a handle on what 2010 and beyond will look like. The bottom line is that WIA funding for 2010 will be flat and 2011 through 2015 will represent the economic recovery. To share a summary of information he reported on the following:

- Job losses bottoming out with 80,000 jobs lost in December.
- Temporary hiring is starting to pick up.
- Consumer spending is flat and will remain so because credit is tight and there is high consumer debt.

- Commercial Real Estate crisis, there is 80 million square feet of unoccupied space in Phoenix.
- Energy costs are fluctuating but are beginning to trend up.
- GDP is forecast to grow between 2 and 3% which is better than it has been.
- Productivity is up over 8% of last year's two quarters.
- Even profitable companies have cut jobs.
- New jobs pay less.
- Estimated 20% of businesses in Arizona will hire while 20% will lay off in 2010.
- Older workers delaying their retirement.
- 20% of men aged 25-54 are unemployed.

There is indication that there is not going to be a lot of room for younger workers. Relative to funding:

- WIA funding is flat for this year so we are looking at shifting our attention to competitive grants.
- ARRA grants to date – Arizona is underfunded.
- Jobs Stimulus Bill (mass election).
- 2/3 of ARRA funds are yet to be expended.
- Massive Arizona budget cuts, following California.
- DOL focus is on youth and families in poverty.

Relative to demographics:

- Arizona growth is stalled.
- Arizona population is undereducated.
- Community college enrollments are rising.
- Latino population growing.
- Exodus of undocumented workers.

MWC has leftover ARRA dollars and formula dollars that we need to budget, and the possibility of stimulus dollars coming our way. The bottom line, we will have a Summer Youth Employment program again this summer, it is just a question of size. In talking with our Youth providers, the Summer program will be more of a quantity vs quality balance. We can elect to serve fewer youth but do a thorough and complete job and focus on outcomes or we can take what DOL is promoting and go out and help as many youth as possible, regardless of the outcome. The whole notion of Stimulus is to get as many youth employed and not concentrate as much on the outcome. One of the things that we need to bring back to our Council meeting in March is what kinds of outcomes do we really want, knowing that the emphasis is on Summer employment. We need to decide what scale we want to operate at and what kinds of measurables we want to get out of this experience. This time we have more time to focus on outcome sorts of data and long term affects as opposed to what we had to deal with last Summer.

VII. Program Report – PLOT — *For Information Only*

Before the PLOT report was given, Trina Jenkins shared the information regarding the Youth Center. She reported that the visits for December slightly increased. Many youth are coming through the Youth Center door or by Adult Services and are brought over to the Youth Center asking to meet or see someone for help. There were 181 youth directed to Call-A-Teen for services. There were 20 presentations done outside of the Youth Center by both Todd Berndt and Cheryl Rossiter at Roadrunner High School. There has been a significant number of requests at the local high schools for presentations from WDD for workshops and introductions on the services that we provide at the Centers. There has been a total of 2,506 visits to the Youth Center from July through December..

Todd Berndt shared that Cheryl Rossiter has moved to a different job and is no longer working with the PLOT program. Todd will be conducting workshops and Trina will be assisting with the workshops. For the month of December they conducted five PLOT workshops and have been around the community doing workshops on Job Readiness skills such as Interview Techniques and Resume Writing at several high schools. The PLOT program wrapped up in December and this time they condensed the program to run four and a half months instead of the previous nine month program. They were able to hold workshops every week and this gave them better attendance from previous years.

VIII. Program Report Summer Youth Employment Program and Annual Program—*For Information Only*

Barb Rorvick reported that Goodwill was not present at the meeting; they are doing a sustainability report with ASU. She reviewed the performance measures report for the first quarter showing that most performance measures were either exceeded or met. The measures have definitely improved from previous reports and their numbers are

coming up. The next report is for the month of December. There were a many carry-overs from the past program year so the new enrollment numbers are low due to the fact that we have had some new providers come on board and they have been able to catch up. There are no numbers for Goodwill for November and December due to the fact they are currently doing a desk top review with them. This particular report shows the regular funding numbers. The last report is for the ARRA Year Round Participation for 2010. The total contract goal was 180 youth and we currently have 152 in this year round program. The providers on this report received ARRA funding and are achieving goals for occupational training. Las Artes was not part of this program.

- **YMCA** – Mike Graser shared with the group that at the Glendale location they have two youth enrolled for the month of December and presently have six youth in the enrollment process for January. They presently have 15 out of the 20 required youth at the Glendale center. Mike discussed that they TABE test every week but have found that out of 26 scheduled tests, they usually only get 16 youth to show up for the exam and only half will pass the exam. Passing the TABE test requires youth to be at least at a 7th grade level. He is concerned about the youth that are not passing this testing. Some youth are scoring as low as a 3rd grade level. They do offer tutoring in the afternoon for math, English or language to help them improve their skills so they will be able to pass the TABE testing. They did not have any youth complete their GED in the month of December. They have finished up a mural at the park in Glendale and were also featured in the Glendale Republic in December. Channel 12 also featured Las Artes along with Raising Arizona Kids so they are receiving media acknowledgement. At the Maryvale facility they have 29 youth currently enrolled and of that they have 10 GED's completed.

- **VSUW** - Julie Sater reported that of the 135 youth they are to serve, they currently have served 133 so they have 2 more youth to enroll in the program by June. They have also been contracted to serve 40 youth with occupational training or through work experience and they have 20 enrolled so far. Some of the fields they will be trained in are Medical Assistant, Pharmacy Tech, Physical Therapy and they have a couple of youth in refrigeration. They have several youth that are working, some in the Head Start program, one at a law office and a couple will be starting at CVS Pharmacy once they completed their testing. They have four youth enrolling in Medical Assisting at South Mountain Community College and three enrolling at the Gilbert One Stop through Chandler/Gilbert Community College, starting in the beginning of February. They are meeting almost all of their performance measures. Jobs for Arizona Graduates now has an office at Compadre High School in Tempe. The AWEE program at the Gilbert One Stop is full and they are hoping to be able to enroll a few additional youth in this program.

- **ACYR** – Charlotte Barnett shared that Adam Soto had previously reported that they were in the process of working with the local Community College to set up a training/work experience program for approximately 15 to 20 youth. Because of the holidays there have been a few snags so things are moving slowly but hopefully this program will be up and running in mid March. The intention of this is to have youth able to walk away with some sort of credential as well as work experience and hopefully permanent employment for these youth. They have an enrollment class starting this month at the West Valley Career Center and have approximately 20 youth signed up for this.

IX. Call to the public

Patrick wanted to report out to the group of a possible partnership with the Southwest Autism Research Center. Denise Resnick founded this organization about 18 years ago and have set up their own internal training program for their young adults. They visited the Center last month and are planning a meeting to see if they can set up some sort of collaboration. He may be reaching out to the providers to see if we can be of any assistance to their program. They are currently working with CVS Pharmacy, Outback Steakhouse, and a few other employers in the valley to place their young adults into employment situations for opportunities they may not have had available to them. This is a special population that is hard to employ and if there is an opportunity to partner to support their cause we would like to be able to assist them.

X. Adjournment

Tony Maldonado adjourned the meeting at 9:37 a.m.