

WYOMING YOUTH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL MINUTES
MARCH 22, 2005
HOLIDAY INN ON THE RIVER
400 "F" ST.
CASPER, WY 82601

WYWDC COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Bret Pizzato
Christie DeGrendele
Katie Long
Elaine Roth
Christina Wiederspahn
Kathy Emmons
Nicole Payla Freeman

WYWDC COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

James Anderson
F.E. "Skip" Gillum PhD
Karen Ross Milmont
Peggy Sanders
Jeffrey Holsinger

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ray Fleming Dinneen
Dan Zwonitzer
Dave McNulty
Teri Wigert, Designee for Trent Blankenship
Barbara Hall

DWS STAFF PRESENT:

Margo LaHiff

March 22, 2005

Chairman Pizzato:

- I. Call to Order:** Chairman Pizzato called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed all members.
- II. Historical Recap:** Kathy Emmons gave history of WYWDC: Research was done by Gov. Geringer on youth councils. With the many directors DWS has seen over the last few years, the WYWDC has been dormant and WYDC believes youth is an important aspect of the council. The Executive Committee has determined that we need to focus on Youth Council Workforce issues. We should be involved in:
 1. NEXT Magazine
 2. Topics for Workforce Summit
 3. Young Latino Conference
 4. WIA Youth Program
 5. RFP for One Stop – using youth monies in local workforce centers

People other than WYDC recognize the need for Youth Council. We have a few vacancies that need to be filled. We will need to decide our strategy for the future and select and concentrate on a few projects and activities that we can do. As we decide where to focus, we should consider a braided base to include:

1. To be more demand driven
2. To look at what is needed in our communities
3. To be more responsive to community needs
4. To revise our strategic plan.

Kathy suggested we consider :

1. **FESS Study** which is the initiative with the First Lady and several state agencies focus. What do we need to be self-sufficient/geographically – what earnings do individuals need to live. This can be a preventative tool.
2. **Child & Family Initiative** – Wyoming Families living in a stable diverse economy, have affordable health care, children are born healthy, be educated and prepared for life.

Much discussion was held regarding ideas to help youth some of the talking points are:

1. Working with the industry, providing curriculum to students, industry trained workers have a better chance of success
2. Transition of school to work – career development with curriculum – develop skills for trade & tech
3. We need to be demand driven
4. Include Marketing awareness – kids don't look outside high school
5. Vocational classes – how does education balance vocational training & standards.
6. Educate youth on tangible real life situations – does this career salary give a living wage?
7. Be Re-active to community/regional needs
8. Talk to youth – what do you want? Give guidance into what opportunities are available here at home
9. Youth need to be held accountable – training can include ethic training
10. Early touch – get a younger age group awareness – age 5 – 13 – what do I need to do if I want?....
11. Do a backwards resume – start here – work to...then work to....10 years from now I want....
12. PR Whole campaign – face on a job/industry – i.e. Nancy Freudenthal started as a maid in a hotel....this is what I need to learn to be a carpenter....by doing this job I could buy....
13. Build reputations with employers – gratitude for jobs well done – become a model employer

III. Reauthorization of WIA – Nicole Freeman: We need to fill some positions on the council according to WIA – we need:

1. A Law Enforcement representative.
2. Youth representative – must be over 18 and qualified for services or have used services
3. Adult who is a parent of a child who qualifies for service

Need to make sure they will be active members. Kathy suggested we check with our local workforce centers to see if they have eligible candidates.

There are bills to reauthorize WIA – there are two measures on the NASWA web site: Budget request – what was appropriated in 2005 and what's being asked for in 2006. The Block grant is taking funds out of WIA control and placing local governors in a flex program. Might allow governors to flexibility of where funds are used so each state can be tailoring funds that are allocated for the most significant needs. Wyoming does not have dislocated workers but might have more issues with older workers so under the block grant governors could allocate funds from the dislocated workers fund to older workers.

IV. NEXT Magazine – Discussion was held regarding the status of the magazine – not enough advertising was sold to produce the magazine and they requested \$30000 from WYWDC instead of the \$7500.00 we allowed last year. We need to look at how it was distributed, what happened, look at timing of distribution – schools need the magazine at the time they are planning for the next school year.

V. Strategic Plan – We need to re-look at our vision statement and decide if changes are needed. It needs to be flexible enough to handle items that will come to this group. We need to prepare a strategic plan and goals that will be different from year to year. Think about keeping the strategic plan short, informative and precise, something that will defend the taxpayers money.

VI. Term Appointment Restructure: A proposal regarding terms is before WWDC this meeting. Appointments will be staggered, 2 year terms except – DWS Director, Director of Employment, Director of Family Services, Director of Business Council; Governor. The WYWDC terms will follow procedure of WWDC term limits and appointments.

VII. Assignments: Future Meetings:

AGENDA ITEMS: NEXT Magazine – distribution – what kind of ads pay for the publication

AGENDA ITEMS: WYWDC – Nominations Council Members to be added – Youth Rep/Law Enforcement Rep/Adult-Parent Rep

AGENDA ITEMS: FESS/Children & Families Initiative

AGENDA ITEMS: Local Employers getting involved in projects

NEXT MEETING: April 27, 2005 – PHONE CONFERENCE 12:15 – 1:15 p.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Items to Send to WYWDC

WEB Site re Calculator
FESS Information
Info on Child & Family Initiative
NEXT Magazine
Acronym List
Legislative tracking matrix
Bret to e-mail rough idea of vision