

Region 2 Youth Standing Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, April 12, 2018

Time: 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Present: Melissa Cooper, Patti Hanson, Sandra Leake, Angela Backhaus, Terri Ewers, Leah O'Neill, Heather DeGroot, Heather Stubbe, Amber Allen

1.0 Welcome

2.0 Action Items to approve agenda and previous meeting minutes dated November 2, 2017 - No quorum – unable to approve agenda or previous meeting minutes from 11/2/17. Also need to discuss active membership at next meeting.

3.0 Updates From Partners

Terri Ewers, NIACC

Camps at NIACC for young adults:

- Verizon STEM camp, 3 weeks long, non-residential for girls. 50% of attendees must be low income. 8th-10th grade. Attendees receive a tablet to use during the summer & school year while part of the program, and Verizon pays for 1 year of access.
- YES Camp – boys and girls, 2 night overnight camp
- Industrial Technology camp for girls
- Entrepreneur camp
- Sports camps of all kinds
- Mind Mania

Leah O'Neill, Department of Corrections – nothing to report

Heather DeGroot, IowaWORKS

- Military Awareness Event – May 10th. May even be able to ride in a military helicopter
- Diversity in Your Organization (for employers) – topics will rotate

Amber Allen, North Iowa Vocational Center

- Dancing for the Dream last weekend, over \$73,000 raised
- In February, started after school program with grant from United Way. Meet twice with young adults, different topics covered such as work, life skills, training. Learn skills on Tuesdays, working out in the community on Thursdays. New group will be starting this summer, but no dates set yet.
- Bringing in different speakers regarding transition topics

Melissa Cooper, PROMISE JOBS

- Workin' It Out – co-taught with Mary Cooley. 2 days, 10 lessons – topics include conflict cycle in the workplace, how to communicate differently to help maintain employment, etc.

Sandra Leake, NIACC Adult Education & Literacy

- Integrated Education & Training welding program to be held May 15-June 14th. Includes welding training as well as basic skills training. Funding available for some attendees.
- Integrated Education & Training CAN program filled quickly and was successful. However, those classes don't count if they decide to continue with nursing education (statewide issue).
- HSED evening classes starting soon; ESL during the summer is in Mason City only

Patti Hanson & Angela Backhaus, WIOA Title 1 program

- Career Fair was held on April 4th, is the 5th year that NIACC and IowaWORKS have partnered in this endeavor. Weather affected the attendance of the high school participants, which was to be over 200. Still, over 510 job seekers attended and 62 employers were represented. 40 employers were on wait list for a booth. More effort needs to be made to attract NIACC students. This year we used social media and presented at classes, which increased student attendance.
- Update on Mason City College Access Network (MC CAN). Hampton also has a CAN group. MC CAN is a conglomerate of people including government officials, North Iowa Community Action, and other community stakeholders who focus on making college or training more of a cultural norm. Focus will be increasing from in school youth to including out of school youth. Will be challenging group to include and recruit. Hampton CAN focuses on 7th and 8th graders, mainly.

4.0 Young Adult Program Update

4.1 Changes in Program - All Employment & Training Specialists now serve all populations instead of being split between programs: Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Young Adult. Heather Stubbe covers Cerro Gordo and Ticket to Work; Heather DeGroote covers Winnebago and Worth counties; Patti Hanson covers Hancock and Franklin counties; Angela Backhaus covers Mitchell County and special projects such as the Career Fair; Julie Kiger covers Floyd County; Kris Dunn (office manager) is now doing intakes and adding program duties to functions while she continues to handle financials.

4.2 Work Experiences – Current WEPS either in progress or being developed include at IowaWORKS, Garner-Hayfield-Ventura schools, veterinary clinic, auto shop, locksmith, and culinary at the Casino.

5.0 Realignment Committee – Patti reported that no official recommendation has yet been released by the state regarding their efforts to consolidate Title 1 regions from 16 to only 2. Committee is recommending at least 8 regions. State board will make recommendation to Governor’s office.

6.0 Upcoming Classes/Events

6.1 New Workshop Names/Offerings – Heather DeGroot talked about new workshops launched in March; handed out current calendar and descriptions.

6.2 Meet & Greet - Meet & Greet event on April 19th, 12:30-1:30. City of Mason City is this month’s featured employer. Heather will email out flier. Meet & Greet is an informal round table discussion, and a good opportunity for job seekers to ask questions of an employer without having to worry about getting a job. The visiting employers are also happy to review resumes.

6.3 Intensive HSED Class – Sandra reported that the next class begins April 30th and ends May 24th. 1:00-4:00pm at IowaWORKS.

7.0 Proposed Upcoming Meetings – May 3, August 23, October 25th in 2018. 3:00-4:00pm

8.0 Adjournment – Adjourned at 4:12pm.