



Mississippi Valley Workforce Development Board

Youth Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 13, at 4:00 p.m., via Zoom and In-Person at 1205 N Central Ave Burlington, IA

Members Present: Jacob Nye, Rebecca Ruberg, Regina Matheson (late), Heather Halbrook, Carol Reynolds, and Andy Sokolovich

Members Absent: Patrick Stock, and Tim Brown

Staff Present: Miranda Swafford, Executive Director, Andrea Taylor, Associate Director, and Mandy Tripp, Executive Assistant

CEO Present: Shane McCampbell and Chad White

Equus Staff: Taylor Longstreth, Title One Operations Manager, Shannon Weaver, Title One Operations Manager, Tabytha Seigfried, Quality Assurance, and Deshawn Banks, Youth Outreach Specialist

One-stop Operator: Nick Clayton

CALLED TO ORDER

Nye called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.

QUORUM

There was a quorum to conduct business.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

There were no excused absences, Tim Brown and Patrick Stock had unexcused absences.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ruberg made a motion to accept the agenda, seconded by Reynolds, and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Halbrook made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes, seconded by Ruberg, and the motion carried.

TRANSFER AR APP

Ryan Leonhardt from Transfr VR was a guest via zoom to give information on a new APP that Transfr has launched called Transfr AR which is free. It is a free app that can be downloaded and career paths viewed in 3D right from a cell phone or tablet. This will allow people of all ages to have access to different types of jobs within their state and see how many open jobs are available as well as the skills needed for those jobs. Everyone in attendance downloaded the app and looked at it with his guidance. He expects Iowa to have its information pulled into it by October 2023. Ryan wanted his email passed along for anyone who had further questions: rleonhardt@transfrvr.com

EQUUS FEBRUARY YOUTH REPORT

Weaver reported 10 out-of-school youth enrollments for February and 1 entered into Occupational Skills Training. 40 stipends and 16 incentives have been paid out in February. Weaver also reported outcomes for February: 1 ISY Work Experience started, 1 OSY Internship started, 1 CDL, 6 measurable skill gains, 1 HISED completion, and 5 unsubsidized employment. The customer satisfaction survey was 90.63% in February. Weaver advised the challenge they are facing is participant follow-through. Weaver discussed some of the outreach they are doing, and Longstreth discussed the VR Healthcare event that was held, though poorly attended due to weather, they are planning to do monthly VR events in the Northern counties. Banks advised the QC Mayors' youth hiring fair was very successful with 12 referrals made, but he spoke to a lot more than 12 youth and advised that connections were being made with youth that were bringing their friends to talk about the program.

VIRTUAL REALITY METRICS REPORT

Weaver stated they had 55 unique users, 64 SIMS started, and 17 sims completed. The most popular sims were First Responders, Robotics Specialist, Hotel Front Desk, and Auto Service Tech.

***POSSIBLE RFQ YOUTH STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT**

Tripp gave a presentation on possibly putting out an RFQ for a subject matter expert to assist with determining better strategies and ways to improve our youth program. Swafford advised it would allow us a way to bring in the youth voice even through community partners to further our reach. Funding would come from the youth budget; Swafford advised the board sets aside funds for special initiatives and this could be one of them if the committee wanted to go this route. Reynolds advised Muscatine had great success with their AIM (Align Impact Muscatine) project and would be happy to connect Swafford with their lead on that project Kim Warren. Next committee meeting Swafford advised we could review youth eligibility, LMI data and possibly have Kim speak if she aligns with our goal. A motion to table this project until further information is provided was made by Ruberg and seconded by Reynolds and the motion was carried.

PERFORMANCE DATA

Weaver discussed the populations that we serve as OSY. Swafford advised she has a meeting with Cherisa Price-Wells from Equus tomorrow, with Nye, Irwin, and Duke invited to participate to discuss ideas on meeting the performance requirements. Swafford advised that if we do not meet even one performance measure 2 years in a row, IWD can force realignment. Weaver advised the only data that is real-time is measurable skill gains and that is the one we can impact now.

YOUTH LOGO

Tripp presented the approved Youth Logo created by TAG – “Accelerate Iowa” and advised we are waiting for TAG to get us the files to start using them.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURN

Matheson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ruberg and the motion carried. Nye adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m.