



YOUTH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Wednesday, April 11, 2012
Merrimack Valley Workforce Investment Board
439 South Union Street
Lawrence, MA 01843

Youth Council MEMBERS PRESENT:

Nicole Austermann, Howard Allen, Janet Allison, Lisa Coy, Irene Chalek, Linda Piergeorge, Cal Williams, Steve Noroian, Michael Strem, Ellen Weinhold

MVWIB Youth Council MEMBERS ABSENT:

Marina Acosta, Tom Connors, Beverly DeSalvo, Brad Howell, April Lyskowsky, Ed Fitzgerald, Barbara Richards, Donna Rivera, Ed Warnshuis, Heidi Riccio, Megan Shea

MVWIB STAFF PRESENT:

Rafael Abislaiman, Mary Kivell, Cristy Gomez

OTHERS:

Kathy Jaffarian

I. Call to Order

Youth Council Chairman Cal Williams called the meeting to order at 11:40 a.m. and welcomed Kathy Jaffarian from YouthBuild who is in charge of career development.

Introductions were made around the table.

II. Approval of April 11, 2012 Minutes

Cal then called for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2012 meeting.

Motion by Linda Piergeorge seconded by Mike Strem to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2012 Youth Council meeting as submitted. Motion passed.

Introductions were then made around the table.

III. New MVWIB Youth Workforce Program Manager Q & A

Cal Williams then introduced Cristy Gomez the MVWIB Youth Workforce Program Manager. Cristy said that she has been working with youth since 1990 beginning as the Youth Service Coordinator at ValleyWorks and as the Family Center director for the Lawrence Family Development & Education Fund, Inc. Her experience also includes teaching GED classes at Lawrence Community Works. She then said she is prepared to answer any questions.

Rafael Abislaiman said that there were a lot of applicants for this position and five very good candidates were interviewed. The consensus of the interview panel was that Cristy was heads above the others. Irene Chalek of Northern Essex Community College said that she is thrilled that Cristy is in this position having worked with her and Cal Williams who was on the interview panel said that part of the interview process included background, experience and working with the Career Center. He said that we have a lot to do in a short time with short money. Howard Allen said that he is very proud of Cristy who was one of his grad students.

IV. Summer Employment Update

VI Other Business

VII. Adjournment

Having no further business Janet Allison made a motion to adjourn seconded by Steve Noroian. Motion passed and meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Kivell

Mary Kivell
Recorder