

**SANTEE-LYNCHES WIB
Youth Council Meeting
Monday, November 3, 2011 – 9:00 AM
Santee-Lynches Regional COG
36 West Liberty Street, Sumter SC 29150**

MINUTES

Youth Council Members Present:

Ed Garrison, Troy Santoscoy, Jean Ford, Rose-Marie Richardson representing John Huggins, Zuelda Smith, and Sharon Teigue.

Excused: Barbara Brown, John Tindal.

Youth Council Members Not Present:

Jeremy Lane, Thaddeus Dickey, Rose Ford, Tavita Heriott, Ramona Lies, Gerald Vaughn, Donald Witherspoon, Dr. James Coleman

Staff Present:

Brenda Golden, Workforce Development Youth Director

Guests Present:

MaryAnn Sewell, Palmetto Youth Connections
Justine Sheets, Palmetto Youth Connections
Stephanie Bradley, Palmetto Youth Connections
Abby Linden, SC DEW
Lana Odom, Youth Build

I. Call to Order, Welcome & Introduction of new Members & Guests

Mr. Troy Santoscoy called the Santee-Lynches Workforce Investment Board's (WIB) Youth Council meeting to order at 9:06 AM. Brenda Golden introduced the guests.

II. Approval of Minutes – October 7, 2011 (M)

There was not a quorum at the meeting, so the Minutes could not be approved.

III. YouthBuild Presentation

Ms. Lana Odom, Center Director of the South Sumter Resource Center, presented information on the YouthBuild Program. YouthBuild serves ages 17-24 and provides construction training, leadership training, and counseling. Youth Build has constructed more than seven houses and also assists with home repairs. She provided a brochure explaining the program.

YouthBuild has partnered with Sumter Adult Ed, and Sharon Teigue commented that students are receiving a marketable skill – earning a GED or diploma, as well as earning money. This program is making a real difference in the community.

Troy Santoscoy asked how the program partners with our youth program, Mary Ann Sewell answered that PYC has a full time program there. PYC receives referrals from Youth Build, and vice versa. Both programs benefit from each other.

Ms. Odom indicated that right now, funds for YouthBuild end June 30, 2012. Ms. Golden thanked Ms. Odom for what she does for the kids.

IV. Palmetto Youth Connections Progress Report from PYC

Mary Ann Sewell introduced Stephanie Bradley as new Program Manager and Lisette Sumpter as the local data person.

Kal Kunkel presented the performance report, which has been re-formatted and serves as a snapshot of performance. So far in PY 11 235 have come to orientation, 49 have completed applications and 41 are eligible.

To date in PY 11 56 new enrollments and 54 carry-overs. Mary Ann Sewell indicated that for October the goal for new enrollments was 16 and PYC enrolled 17; Kal added that PYC is only 8 off from where they want to be.

Mr. Kunkel went on to explain the demographics chart with the male-female ratio. There were 93 dropouts, and 7 people were employed at registration, which means they will not count positively or negatively in the performance measure. Breakdown of all participants by county is Clarendon 25, Kershaw 25, Lee 10, and Sumter 49. Regarding outcomes, 7 participants had Literacy/Numeracy gains, six received GEDs or diplomas, 3 received certificates, and there were 7 placements. He also reviewed Work Ready Services and the caseload breakdown.

For final federal performance in PY10, as a reminder, the program did not meet in the “credentials” measure but did meet “placements” and “literacy/numeracy.” He also reviewed first-quarter PY11 data, with Literacy-Numeracy at 66% with goal of 45%; credentials at 37% with goal of 55%; and placements at 54% with goal of 61%.

Troy Santoscoy asked him to explain “credential.” Mr. Kunkel indicated that a credential, such as a high school diploma or GED, must be nationally recognized. Paxen was placing students in training and keeping them in training so a lot of participants did not receive a credential while in the program. For a credential to be counted toward performance, it must be earned by the 3rd quarter after followup. In addition, you only get credit for one credential - GED or Occupational – but PYC wants them to get both.

There was discussion about the advantage of having PYC being housed at adult education, and meanwhile working with CCTC to see what the demand of occupational training is.

Ed Garrison asked how difficult it is to get the placements. Mr. Kunkel replied that employers are offering jobs and PYC is trying to drive them to the jobs that are available. Ms. Sewell

indicated that work experience, shadowing, and internships will help. Mr. Kunkel explained the work experience, and Ms. Sewell emphasized that the participant must graduate in order to participate in Work Experience. It is a long process.

Abbey Linden of SC DEW remarked that as she looked at some of the past participants, the previous provider, Paxen, was allowing students to exit and they were not following through. She is extremely pleased with progress PYC has made.

V. Jobs for America's Graduates update

Ms. Golden provided an update to the Youth Council on the Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) program at Manning High School. The WIB is now funding 50% of the program previously paid by state funds. Staff obtained signatures on the MOU and met with the JAG coordinator to begin enrolling students. Yesterday WIB staff enrolled 11 of the seniors and left paperwork for additional participants' parents to sign. The program is moving forward and in the future these participants will impact our numbers in the "credentials" area.

VI. Focus Areas/Goals and Strategic Plan update

Troy reviewed the proposed Strategic Plan. He explained that the WIB took action on its strategic plan to amend and align it with the State's recommendation we add specific dates of completions as well as projected completion dates.

Ms. Golden explained that when the Youth Council was completing its strategic plan early this year and completed the objectives and assigning focus groups.

Mr. Santoscoy said that once the WIB completed their Strategic Plan we needed to amend our plan to be aligned with the WIB Plan. Both plans are moving in the same direction now, Ms. Golden said, with a draft revised Youth Council plan for discussion today. New items are in red with timeframes attached, and proposed deletions are struck through.

Ms. Santoscoy reviewed each item:

Goal 1 – Troy and Thaddeus Dickey worked on this goal. They met with the School Superintendent, the School District, and the Chamber. He read objectives under 1, then read strategies and explained them.

Ms. Golden explained that Mr. Santosocoy and his group is responsible for 1.1.1 thru 1.1.6. Item 1.1.7 is the high school Expo being conducted by the REC. This item was on the WIB's Strategic Plan. The next item, 1.2.1, is from the WIB's plan and addresses Workforce 2000+.

Mr. Santoscoy reviewed Goal 2 with Youth Council members John Tindal and Ed Garrison as the leads. Ms. Golden reviewed why some of the objectives were struck through, explaining that some of the objectives are too hard to meet within the scope of Youth Council and others were more strategies than objectives.

Mr. Santoscoy asked Mr. Garrison to review the changes, as Mr. Tindal is not present, and Mr. Garrison did not have any issues with the changes. There was discussion on Apprenticeship under 2.1 and having someone come to the Youth Council to speak. However, it will need to be added under 1c. because it is for in-school youth.

Ms. Golden reviewed the strategies under 2. Now we have PYC in place to manage the out-of-school program and by June 2012 the JAG program will help meet the "credentials" goal as well.

There was discussion of 2.3.1, adding youth participation in Council meeting, and Mr. Garrison agreed.

Sharon Teigue explained goal 3. She added that there are a lot of Youth in the jails. She has met with school superintendent and director of the detention centers, and they are trying to come up with a plan to reach these Youth.

Ms. Teigue also indicated she has met with Career Center representatives about greenhouse to prepare students for green jobs in the future and fire fighter and ems programs.

Ms. Golden said the asset map, item 3.1.1, has been completed. On item 3.2.2, Ms. Teigue comments that the problem will be in school as students cannot access Facebook, Twitter, and other social media. Mr. Kunkel recommended moving 3.2.2 under goal 5 and it was agreed.

Mr. Santoscoy asked whether the Youth Council thinks we can achieve all these items. Ms. Golden added that some items are derived from results of our Pilot LWIB Standards Review. She asked Ms. Linden how the State considers items shown as "ongoing," to which she replied they were OK, because some things are ongoing.

There was discussion on 3.1.3, inviting local community leaders to participate in Youth Council meetings. On 3.2.1, Mr. Kunkel explained that PYC is already using the Internet-based application.

Ms. Golden reviewed 3.3.1 and commented that this goal has been met with funds from the REC, state share of Jobs for America's Graduates, the SC Department of Transportation grant, and funding from the Commission on Higher Education to the REC.

Goal 4 was assigned to Barbara Brown and the group reviewed objectives and strategies. Ms. Golden gave an example of current activities she has participated in such as Sumter High's college application day last week. Ms. Linden asked that "ongoing" be removed.

A list of ongoing community involvements was discussed.

Goal 5 regarding a public information campaign was assigned to Mr. Kunkel. The group discussed strategies, and Mr. Kunkel mentioned the ETV Summit from the Trident Region and the Jobs for America's Graduates program. He advocated promoting the community message for youth get to the next level in their education. He also mentioned Personal Pathways, which has college and career planning.

Mr. Santoscoy asked if we have funds for billboards, Ms. Linden said "no." Mr. Santoscoy also reviewed the 2nd handout, a timeline. He told the board this will allow us to track all the dates on the Strategic Plan and is a great tool. Ms. Golden will update the timeline with changes from today.

VII. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Santee-Lynches Workforce Investment Youth Council Meeting was adjourned at 10:19 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Thames and Brenda Golden