

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT COUNCIL

January 11, 2011

2:00 P.M.

SENECA ROOM – TST BOCES

PRESENT: N. Zook, D. Bradac, L. Schoffel, S. Tabor, J. Bellis, V. Zeppelin, B. Yarosh, H. Cooper, R. Pollack
EXCUSED: M. Coldren, Y. Merritt
GUESTS: K. Coleman, County Youth Services; J. King, Keuka College
STAFF: J. Mattick, J. Luu

CALL TO ORDER:

Ms. Mattick called the meeting to order in Mr. Coldren's absence at 2:07 p.m.

JobNet

Ms. Tabor provided an overview of the JobNet Program that is operated through the Youth Employment Service. The program is offered to county youth and provides opportunities for job coaching, odd jobs and part-time employment placements. Staff gather info and conduct skills assessments of each youth before placement and do follow-up with the youth and employers weekly.

Youth Entrepreneurship Academy

The group continued discussion about various entrepreneurship models such as the Junior Achievement Chapter and Youth Entrepreneurship Academy. Junior Achievement is a dynamic model for a diverse group of students and agencies could act as feeders for the program. Ms. Mattick will follow-up with Zack Schulman who is involved in the program locally and report back at a future meeting.

2011 Summer Youth Employment Program

Summer youth employment is on the list of priorities for Governor Cuomo meaning there could potentially be funds available this summer. Ms. Schoffel reported her agency is still negotiating contracts with municipalities and there is still a lot of uncertainty. Ms. Coleman reported that both the Town of Ithaca and the Youth Employment Service have funds available within their 2011 budgets for summer programming.

There was discussion about making more volunteer opportunities available this summer because the limited funding will make paid placements much harder, but it will be important to get information out early before kids get discouraged and quit looking for opportunities.

Ms. Mattick stated there has also been discussion within the Ithaca City Schools about broadening the MTP program beyond serving youth with disabilities. She and Mr. Coldren met with the principal at ICSD and there may be possibilities to do something at a higher level with their currently defunct business program. Ms. Zook and Ms. Coleman offered to bring the information to the youth programming meeting in February and provide an update at the March YEC meeting.

Ms. Mattick stated she is feeling a bit more optimistic about the possibility of summer youth funds being made available and she will be working with the Performance and Evaluation Committee on the Request for Proposals to bring back to the February meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:24 p.m. the next meeting is scheduled for February 8, 2011 at 2 p.m. at BOCES.