

**Youth Council
Workforce Investment Board of Will County
Joliet Junior College Renaissance Center
214 N. Ottawa Street, Joliet, IL
September 3, 2015
Minutes**

Council Members					
Name	Present	Absent	Name	Present	Absent
Nancy Baldwin	X		Elizabeth Kaufman		X
Vincent Clark		X	Monica Lowe	X	
Dale Evans	X		Emilie McCallister		X
Susan Flessner	X		Cheryl McCarthy	X	
Jill Garbaliauskas		X	Jim Moustis	X	
Beth Gonzalez	X		Marieta Pergi	X	
Pam Heavens		X	Laura Price	X	
Mike Hennessy		X	Jerry Staley	X	
Mark Jepson	X		Anika Todd	X	
Neal Kauffman	X				

Others Present: Pat Fera, Mary Gajcak, Cody Dailey, Sue Davinger

Welcome and Approval of Minutes

Cheryl McCarthy called the meeting to order. The minutes of the January 2015 meeting were approved on a motion by Susan Flessner, seconded by Dale Evans.

Youth Council Action Plan

Pat Fera began with an overview of the Youth Council responsibilities, members and meeting schedules through November 2016. She presented the current Youth Council Action Plan, defining three Strategic Goals. Fera noted that Joan Wisniewski has been contracted to expand the career exploration and post-secondary training components of the Connect2Employment program. The Committee will update this Plan in 2016. Fera asked that Committee members bring ideas for strategic plans to the next meeting for discussion.

Fera reviewed the GED Preparation and Occupational Skill Training Program, noting that there are 170 participants; 70 continuing and 100 new through July 2015. Cody Dailey, Career Specialist/Workforce Development Liaison from Joliet Junior College presented the progress of the Occupational Skills Training Program. Since July, new enrollments have grown from 83 to 102. New eligibility guidelines under WIOA will make eligibility easier in the future. Marieta noted that there are currently 13 new GED participants, of 119 total participants. After WSD preparation, the pass-rate is about 90%.

Youth Provider Summit

Pat Fera noted that WIB will host a Youth Provider Summit in either May or September of 2016. She asked that any council members who would like to assist by participating in the Summit planning committee contact Mary Gajcak.

Announcements

There will be a 'Careers in Energy' event on October 13, 2015 at Joliet Junior College from 5:00-7:00 pm. Nicor, ComEd, Exelon, and a wind-energy company are among those expected to present.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Youth Council will be held November 5, 2015 at the Joliet Township High School Administration Center at 300 Caterpillar Drive in Joliet at 7:30 am.