

**Youth Council
Workforce Investment Board of Will County
Workforce Center of Will County
2400 Glenwood Avenue, Joliet, IL
March 7, 2017
Minutes**

Council Members					
Name	Present	Absent	Name	Present	Absent
Nancy Baldwin	X		Monica Lowe		
Colleen Brooks	X		Emilie McCallister	X	
Toni Carrera	X		Cheryl McCarthy	X	
Maria DiMuzio	X		Jim Moustis		X
Susan Flessner	X		Amy Murphy	X	
Pam Heavens		X	Marieta Pergi	X	
Mike Hennessy	X		Caroline Portlock	X	
Mark Jepson		X	Laura Price	X	
Neal Kauffman		X	Kim Smith	X	
Elizabeth Kaufman		X	Pamela Thomas	X	

Others Present: Carli Cooper, Sue Davinger, Pat Fera, Mary Gajcak, Avis Hamilton, Keri Peters, Tammy Tschida

Welcome and Approval of Minutes

Cheryl McCarthy called the meeting to order.

The minutes of the November 3, 2016 meeting were approved on a motion by Susan Flessner, seconded by Emilie McCallister.

Youth Provider Workshop; First Quarter event. Mary Gajcak reviewed evaluations from the first quarterly Youth Provider Workshop, *The Mental Health Needs of Adolescents and Young Adults*, by Stephen Kehoe, which took place on February 23rd. The workshop was an overall success. Gajcak announced that Mr. Kehoe will be involved with the eight-hour *Mental Health First Aid for Youth* class for certification and CEU's. Fera asked for topic suggestions for the second quarter workshop.

Connect to Your Future youth program: Staff from Joliet Junior College and Workforce Services presented an overview of the activities of their programs as well as success stories and customer profiles. Staff emphasized the importance of offering soft skills for employment as well as creating a foundation for customers that present barriers to success.

Youth Video: Fera presented a sampling of the Connect to Your Future interviews that have been conducted by EDSI on the topic of preparing for work, thinking about future opportunities and how to achieve them. The completed video will also include interviews with employers, managers and HR professionals, representing selected in-demand occupations. Fera asked for referrals to local businesses. McCarthy suggested that a segment showing what barriers students face be added at the beginning of the program (homelessness, poverty, abusive homes, etc.).

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Youth Council will be held on May 2nd at the Workforce Center of Will County, 2400 Glenwood, Joliet at 7:30 am.