

Youth Council
 Workforce Investment Board of Will County
 Workforce Center of Will County
 2400 Glenwood Avenue, Joliet, IL
July 15, 2020
Minutes

Council Members					
Name	Present	Absent	Name	Present	Absent
Dwayne Barefield	X		Monica Lowe	X	
Gloria Dollinger	X		Marieta Pergi	X	
Susan Flessner	X		Keri Peter	X	
Maribeth Hearn		X	Michelle Sebasco	X	
Mike Hennessy	X		Michele Smith	X	
Neal Kauffman		X	Ben Stortz	X	
Elizabeth Kaufman	X		Shawn Walsh	X	
Staff and Guests					
Caroline Portlock	Susan Davinger		Mary Gajcak	Cornell Lurry	
Josh Potter					

Welcome and Approval of Minutes

Flessner called the meeting to order and welcomed new WIB members, Cornell Lurry and Josh Potter to the meeting.

Minutes of the January 15, 2020 meeting were approved by roll call on a motion by Kaufman, seconded by Stortz

Connect to Your Future Program:

Academic Skills Report presented by Pergi

Occupational Skills Report: Peter reported that even through the COVID-19 shut down, wonderful success stories continued. Students continued to receive stackable credentials. Internships stopped in March, and returned in June 2020. JJC is looking to expand internship opportunities with new companies. Online learning brought new challenges to be overcome by assuring that mobile hot-spots and/or internet access was available to students learning from home.

Outreach: Pergi reported that all outreach events, including the annual Back-to-School event, were cancelled in March. Students have met virtually and via email communications.

Peter noted that JJC is currently offering community information and recruiting sessions on ZOOM. Because at-home learning is more convenient for some, and a live presenter is available to answer any questions students have, online classes will continue to be made available.

Success Stories: Pergi and Peter work very closely with youth, and mutually shared success stories of four students – Thomas Digrazia, Alyssia Monari, Latyra Webber, and Crystal Joachin.

Committee Co-Chairs:

Sebasco accepted the position as co-chair for the Youth Council.

Youth Provider Events/Activities:

Portlock asked the Council for topics to cover in future Youth Provider workshops, and for opinions about offering ZOOM as a vehicle during the COVID-19 issues.

Sebasco reported that Governors State cancelled its STEM Camp for this year, and are looking into online components for use from home.

Barefield said that plans to reopen have been put on hold due to the current COVID-19 spike. Classroom training will remain available virtually; hands-on experience remains a concern for now.

Next Meeting: The next quarterly meeting of the Youth Council will be October 21, 2020 at 7:30 am.