

**WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD  
Of San Luis Obispo County**

**Youth Council Minutes**

**Date:** Wednesday, June 11, 2014  
**Time:** 4:00 PM  
**Location:** DSS, 3433 S. Higuera Street, San Luis Obispo, CA 3rd Floor, Room 358

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**Present:** Patrick McGuire (Chair), Chris Cronan, John Collins, Matthew Green, Karen O'Brien, Jessica Thomas, Charles Headington, Celena Malarkey, Chris Cronan, Jim Salio

**Excused:** Sandra Bourbon, Kevin Kuhn, Melissa Roberts Tracy Schiro, Emma Tabbara, Nikita

**Staff:** Sarah Hayter, Dawn Boulanger, Reva Bear, Felipe Gonzalez

**Guests:** Jenn Kirn (Cuesta), David Ryal and Charlotte Johnson, Jon Rubin (Henkels & McCoy), Christine Rodgers (EVC), Dawn Hinchman (STEM Collaborative)

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**Call to Order and Introductions**

Chair Patrick McGuire called the meeting to order at 4:08 PM. **Quorum.**

**Public Comment**

Reva Bear shared some information on the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and the changes that would take place if the legislation passes. Ms. Bear went on to say that some of the changes would include a reduction of members needed for a WIB, more streamlined One-Stop services, and redefined definitions of eligibility to include ex-offender and homeless population. The significant impact to youth will be that a shift in spending allocations will be made to where 75 percent of the youth budget will be required to be spent on out-of-school youth.

**Presentation**

Christine Rodgers of the Economic Vitality Corporation of San Luis Obispo (EVC) gave a PowerPoint presentation on an Industry Cluster Study that the EVC had done called the Economic Strategy Project. She began by giving a brief overview of the EVC and how they serve the community and then went on to address key economic challenges facing our region including loss of household jobs, high housing costs in comparison to wages, lack of career opportunities and companies challenged to attract employees from outside our region. She spoke on initiatives that were not only creating job opportunities within SLO county but also addressing issues counties' workforce faces citing problems such as unaffordable housing costs and a disconnect between local businesses and local job seekers. She then identified the top six industry clusters within the county which were: building design and construction, green energy, health services, knowledge and innovation, specialized manufacturing and uniquely SLO County industries. There was some concern that was addressed in the connection between the presentation being given and how the information benefited the Youth Council. Matthew Green and Jim Salio expressed an appreciation for the work the EVC does but pointed out a key factor that was not represented in the presentation. The Economic Strategy Project identified what the growing industry clusters had historically been but did not provide information on where workforce training and development should be directed currently and moving forward. The two members felt that the project might be misconceived as a tool for training gap identification and although it was a valuable resource, it did little to serve the needs of this particular council. Charles Headington shared that because of the efforts and strides made by the EVC, projects like the solar farm have opened up opportunities for many entry level positions which youth in the program

could benefit from not only as paid job experience but skills training as well. Chair McGuire thanked Ms. Rogers for the presentation and shared that with the information gained and the Skills Gap analysis underway, the council would have a better foundation to address the needs and direction of future training resource allocations.

### **Consent Items**

- 4.1 Approval of February 19, 2014  
**Motion to Approve:** Karen O'Brien  
**Seconded:** Charles Headington  
**Motion Passes Unanimously**
- 4.2 Approval of the April 09, 2014 Minutes:  
**Motion to Approve:** Jim Salio  
**Seconded:** Matthew Green  
**Abstentions:** Karen O'Brien  
**Motion Passes Unanimously**
- 4.3 Approval of appointment of Dawn Hinchman to the Youth Council  
**Motion to Approve:** Jim Salio  
**Second:** Matthew Green  
**Motion Passes Unanimously**

### **Information/Discussion/Action Items:**

#### **5.1 Update Regarding the Continuation of Henkels & McCoy Greensmart WIA Youth Services**

Dawn Boulanger shared that a continuation of GreenSmart WIA Youth Services was agreed upon at the Executive Committee meeting earlier that day and specified that the same population of youth were being served and that no WIA funds were being used in this continuation.

#### **5.2 Update on Ad hoc committee for youth Council Employer Recognition**

Ms. Boulanger provided an informational report on the progress made by the ad hoc committee regarding the Youth Council Employer Recognition Award which could be reviewed by members in the agenda packet.

#### **5.3 Update on Current Youth Council Membership**

Mr. Gonzalez provided an informational report containing statistics regarding current and prior year's membership numbers and attendance records. This report was included in the agenda packet for members to review.

### **Contractor Reports**

#### **6.1 Receive Goodwill's report of Cuesta youth program performance**

Jenn Kirn reported the years goals were met by the Cuesta youth program and she also shared that the John Muir Charter School would be hosting its graduation ceremony where there would be a total of 15 WIA youth receiving either their high school diploma or G.E.D. certificate. Ms. Kirn went on to thank the Youth Council for their continued support of these youth.

## **6.2 Receive Henkels & McCoy report of GreenSmart youth program**

Charlotte Johnson shared the progress GreenSmart has made and that they currently had 30 youth enrolled in the program. Ms. Johnson also shared what steps were being taken to provide essential tools for job seekers such as cell phones and clothes for interviews. There was also a concern regarding the youth's education gap but John Rubin explained that the youth financial needs were a larger priority. John Collins requested to see a spreadsheet of the GreenSmart enrolled youth demographics at the next meeting and John Rubin agreed to provide that document.

### **Future Discussion Items/New Business**

- Review Demographics Spreadsheet from Henkels & McCoy at the next meeting

**Next Meeting:** 4:00 PM  
Wednesday, August 13, 2014  
DSS, 3433 South Higuera Street, SLO, 3rd Floor, Room 358

**Meeting Adjourned at 5:11 PM.**