



**NORTHWEST REGIONAL
WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD**
FIRST JOB | NEXT JOB | BEST JOB

YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, November 16th, 2023
In-person at 8 am
249 Thomaston Ave, Waterbury, CT 06702

Attendees: Stephen Barbieri, Chief Fernando Spagnolo, Tracy Maher, Brianna McCalla, Frances Hardy, Laura McCarthy, Luis Leon, Olivia Dudley, Maggie Sullivan, Erica Soares. Online attendance: Karen Mello, Diane Teixeira, Jessie Deponte, Crystal Quigg, Heather Pelletier, Sonia Mesquita, Susan Domanico, Cammie Beazer, Albana Lame, Sara Skawinsky. Also in attendance: Cathy Awwad, Genny Fonseca, Jalil Shabbaz, Jay Dunn, Amy Fellows, and Nina Lombardi.

Meeting commenced at 8:05 Am

1. Approval of Youth Committee Meeting Minutes from April 18th, 2023.

A motion to approve was made by S. Barbieri and seconded by F. Hardy. Motion approved.

2. Youth Fair Event recap and next steps

Chief Spagnolo Started by thanking everyone for attending and acknowledged the efforts made in the April 2023 youth fair, he also noted that the committee is trying to figure out what caused the low census for the NVCC event as it is important to continue the success of these opportunities presented to the youth.

C. Awwad proposed adding youth to the committee, which will implement new perspectives.

The events are to have interactive experiences such as financial literacy, VR Goggles, and team-building activities.



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J. Shabbaz proposed changing the name of the event and its flyer. E. Suarez from Pal suggested getting tutors involved in the planning committee. One of the suggestions was the use of focus groups.

3. Update on Year-Round Employment

C. Awwad said that year-round funding for future bankers will get some outcome news on January 18th from the CFT meeting.

She also informed that the state assured guaranteed funds which would contain an allocated portion for the summer youth & year-round program.

4. Release of WIOA In-School Youth Proposal

C. Awwad emphasized that an RFP for in-school youth program has been released and that a mandatory bidders conference is to take place on the 21st. It requires 14 elements, an intense summer component, and a team-building vision which creates a path to complete high school.

5. New Business

It has been confirmed that the ADS extended the contract, which will help engage them with supportive services, funding for tutoring, internship, etc.. it will also help the disabled and special needs.

6. Meeting Adjournment

A motion to adjourn at 8:15 a.m. was made by F. Hardy and seconded by S. Barbieri. Motion approved.