



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

YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 21st, 2023, at 8:00 AM

In-person: 249 Thomaston Ave, Waterbury CT 60702

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84983565330?pwd=MXFldXpiVExMMMy8vL0pXRWR6MWIEdz09>

Meeting ID: 849 8356 5330 Passcode: 651762

Attendees: Chief Fernando Spagnolo, Enitza Morris, Jim Orourke, Gianna Falotico, Diane Cassidy, Diane G. Teixeira, Frances Hardy, Heather Pelletier, Jesse Daponte, Kim Gioia, Klaus Babiarz, Luis Leon-Colon, Quesha Rogers, Sarah Skawinski, Stephen Romano, Steve Barbieri, Sue Domanico, Amanda Pratte, Julie Schmitter, Karen Mello, Maria L. Gonzalez, Mary Morrone, Madison Blanchard, Stephanie knight, Olivia Dudley, Ronae Mason-Craig, Tracy Mahar.

Also in attendance: **Cathy Awwad, Jalil Shabazz, Amy Fellows, Jay Dunn, Nina Lombardi.**

1. Welcome and introductions.

Chief Spagnolo called the meeting to order at 08:00 am and welcomed attendees.

CEO C. Awwad welcomed all attendees and updated the summer youth programs vendors on new dates and budgets. She shared that the governor's allocated budget to the summer youth programs has increased from 5 to 15 million dollars, adding that the workforce boards have been offering youth different opportunities and will exceedingly continue to do so if the allocated funds remain available solely to the boards.

2. Approval of the November 10th meeting's minutes

Minutes are to be provided for approval during the next quarterly meeting that will take place on May 18th, 2023.

3. Update on the planning of April's Youth & Wellness Fair

- **Volunteers**
- **Transportation**
- **Flyer distribution and outreach**
- **Booth's registration**



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C. Awwad brought attention to the fact that the flyer has been completed and encouraged getting it heavily distributed prior to the event to reach more registrants. She added that the flyer has a QR code that takes one directly to the Google registration form which will be closed once we reach 150 youth by a certain date.

C. Awwad advised that the event would need 25 to 40 people for the financial literacy reality fair part, from 12:15 PM to 3 PM. Volunteers are to register by adding their names to the spreadsheet link that was distributed via email and the Outlook invite.

C. Awwad informed that Jay Dunn will chronicle the experience of a couple of youth navigating the event, as well as what took to organize it.

Agencies willing to have a booth during the fair were encouraged to register with Nina Lombardi. She also informed that the gift cards that were donated by Pastor Reese are to be purchased asap and logged for audit purposes. Transportation is to be organized as registrants' list grows showing their area of residence, then vans will be arranged for pick ups from inside and outside of Waterbury.

Concerning Summer Youth Applications, prior years participants of the summer youth program are to be encouraged to re-enlist again this summer for the July 5th start, a YouTube video tutorial on how to complete the application will be ready and up on www.nrwib.org in two weeks time.

Chief Spagnolo confirmed sharing the flyer with different agencies and involving some media channels as well.

C. Awwad thanked everyone involved and confirmed that biweekly meetings are scheduled to keep organizing the fair and keeping everyone updated.

4. Other Business

No other business was conducted.

5. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by S. Barbieri and seconded by S. Romano at 8:30 Am. Motion carried.