

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

May 16, 2017

Members Present

Cleve Bryan, Chair
Kim Alexander, GCIT
Marge Canning, GCIT
Andrea Rivera, DVRS
Natalie Perez, DWD
Marie Rafter, GC Probation
Daniel Sulpizio, Business
Rudy Aikens, GC DHDS
Brian Carey, WDB Staff

Tom Bianco, Co-Chair
Stephen Hart, DWD
Laurie Haldeman, GCIT
Terry Levins, DWD
Gina Pratta-Hoffman, Family Success Ctr.
Sharon Rosado, Abilities Solutions
Sandy Uhr, GCIT
Gregory Wright, GCIT
Bridget DiGiambattista, WDB Staff

Members Absent

Jessica Froba, NJJC
Dr. W. King, FBO
Leona Mather, Youth Parent
John Rasmus, GC Housing Authority
Kristen Tahaney, Center for Family Svcs.
Kimberly Webster, NJ Corps

Kim Gober, GC Housing Authority
Erin Klein, Robin's Nest
Mien Mombo, NJLWD
Michelle Shirey, WDB Director
Robert Taylor, Boys & Girls Club

Visitor

Talib Concepcion, Student

Cleve opened the meeting at 2:00 pm.

A motion to approve February 21, 2017 minutes was made by S. Hart, seconded by K. Alexander. Kim stated correction to be made to minutes to reflect 10 students were taking TASC test not high set test as noted in minutes.

Youth Advisory Report

Talib reported the committee met on April 20, 2 students were present. Topics discussed were recent job shadow at Liscio's on April 11th, both students who attended were offered employment if they were interested. They spoke about the guest speakers coming from GCIT-Apprenticeship Coordinator and Wells Fargo. A career awareness trip to the Deptford Mall was May 4th, and Talib was offered job at KicksUSA. A successful food drive was held in March. The dog chew toy service project is ongoing, PetSavers Organization recently picked up batch.

Student Report

Talib loves the program, especially likes the pace the program is run and the one on one. He is interested in auto mechanic or auto bodywork.

Status

Sandy reported enrollment has been low, 10 did not pass Tabe test. They were referred to Continuing Education. Five students will be taking Tabe test next week. The last 2 weeks of April they only had 3 student attending.

Total number of students having attended since July 1, 2016 is 25. The line number for total number of students attending from July 1 2016 has been added, as requested by S. Hart.

Sandy stated they are seeing less and less drop out students. Cleve stated the main reason is more districts offer a Twilight program. Gregory stated they continue to efforts of outreach to help with enrollment. Andrea suggested sending flyer to the DVRS counselors as they have relationship with child study teams. Natalie suggested for those testing low to provide a study guide pamphlet with application. Stephen said another point of contact is Youth & Family Services, Stephen has meeting with

them and suggested for one of the staff to attend to speak about the program. Gregory asked Stephen to forward meeting date and time. Gregory stated they have a database of organizations in the County that they send program information. Cleve asked Gregory to furnish a copy of the data base list at the next meeting so the committee can review and add any contact not listed. Marie stated she deals with juvenile probation clients and asked Gregory if they would do a presentation at the Probation Office.

New / Old Business

Community Service – students will work weekly starting in September at Restore Habitat for Humanity.

Brian reported State is focusing on the work experience component for their Youth Programs and with the minimum 20% required for this activity. He also indicated that the program can go beyond that threshold. He pointed out that Talib was a clear example of the work experience at the Motor Pool provided the interest and motivation to pursue a career path in the automobile industry.

Announcements

Youth graduation ceremony will be held Thursday, June 8, 2017, 6:30 pm at GCIT Theater. They have approximately 12 students participating in the ceremony.

A motion for adjournment was made by T. Bianco, seconded by S. Hart.

The next meeting will be held September 19, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Bridget A. DiGiambattista, WDB Staff