

**Workforce Development Council of Seattle-King County
Youth Committee
Thursday, November 19, 2009; 3:30pm – 5:00pm**

Youth Committee (YC)/Board members present: Terry Seaman, Ron Falberg, Rich Berkowitz, Jim Jean-Francois, Verne Rainey, Lee Newgent, Mick Moore

Others present: Laura-Lakings Becvar, Mike Hobert, Marilyn Young Skogland, Jennifer Hill, Andrea Koval, Katy Lukas, Ray Valdez, Colin Sexton, Peter Tsai, Kellie Nakano, Matt Houghton

WDC staff present: Peter Cavanaugh, Dan Fey, Min Song

I. Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Terry Seaman called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. and asked members and guests to introduce themselves. Mr. Seaman introduced newest YC member, Mr. Lee Newgent. Mr. Peter Cavanaugh provided an overview of September 24, 2009 YC meeting.

II. Action Items

A. Consent – Minutes and Agenda

The agenda and minutes of the September 24, 2009 meeting were approved. Mr. Jim Jean-Francois motioned to approve and Mr. Newgent seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

B. Funding recommendation

Mr. Cavanaugh presented the request for approval to allocate unspent WIA ARRA youth funds. During closeout of the \$2.8 million ARRA-funded summer youth program that ran from May - September 2009, the WDC identified up to \$250k in unspent ARRA youth funds that will be returned to the WDC from service providers. ARRA WIA youth funds must be spent by June 30, 2010. The ARRA legislation and subsequent Department of Labor waivers provide unique options for ARRA youth funding, including to:

- 1) Extend Summer Youth Employment Program by negotiating new contracts with the two competitively procured ARRA Summer Youth Employment Program contractors: City of Seattle and King County Work Training Program
- 2) Supplement WIA Formula Funds

Staff recommended option 1 above. Funds would be awarded to provide work experience in growth sectors for Out of School Youth ages 18-24 with services delivered by March 31, 2010.

Mr. Seaman supported the staff recommendation, noting success as reflected by youth sharing their stories at previous YC meetings. Mr. Berkowitz noted he hopes there will be opportunity to use funds with additional considerations: 1) support employment via WA state ferry system for on-board WEX and credentials; security card clearance, which can take 1-2 months became an issue of timing with the initial ARRA youth summer funds 2) support Youthbuild, in partnership with Habitat for Humanity.

Ms. Laura-Lakings Becvar asked about the ability to spend the full \$250k in the remaining timeframe, to which Mr. Cavanaugh responded there is no concern based on past ARRA summer program success. Mr. Ron Falberg asked if current providers are ready to continue, given they initially had a start-up

phase, to which Mr. Cavanaugh responded the providers are ready to continue services. Mr. Mick Moore asked 1) how many youth will be served and 2) if there are any maritime connections. Mr. Cavanaugh responded 1) the number to be served is to be determined and 2) there is a connection via SoDo Inc., but other connections may be too early in development at this time.

Mr. Jean-Francois motioned to approve and Mr. Newgent seconded the motion; the motion passed with Mr. Verne Rainey abstaining due to conflict of interest.

III. Presentation/Discussion

Mr. Cavanaugh introduced both presenters, who are focused on state and local level exposure to career planning and emerging industry demand.

A. Green Tech Initiative - Manufacturing Industrial Council (MIC)

Mr. Dave Gering, ED of the Manufacturing Industrial Council, provided a Green Tech Initiative overview, including successes and challenges.

Approximately 1200-1500 youth per year are engaged in aviation high school/aviation-based learning, with the first graduation occurring last year. Our local “green tech” industry catchment includes new developments such as the Foss Tug Boat hybrid, Paccar’s hybrid line, Boeing’s new 787 production line, in addition to Boeing being a leader in developing algae as a renewable fuel. The Seattle Metropolitan Statistical Area is the 4th biggest export center and the greenest in the U.S.

Our area is facing a workforce challenge with 52 being the average age of a Boeing employee (the same in any skilled trades). With the average entry-level age of 28 years old at the Duwamish training center, these workers are losing 10 years of peak earning potential at the journeyman rate of pay.

Mr. Gering also shared industry growth trends in the overall economy from ‘02-‘06, as well as occupational growth in specific sectors. Approximately three years ago, MIC became involved in the green, industrial business and career expo, in addition to partnerships with labor and both K-12 and post secondary education, including a focus in the areas of applied math and technology.

Mr. Gering emphasized the importance of strong business engagement and partnerships, engaging the future workforce at younger ages into career pathways, offering more experiential, work-based learning opportunities in K-12, and better integration of K-12 with post-secondary education, including partnerships with pre-apprenticeship programs.

B. Navigation 101 – Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction

Mr. Mike Hubert provided an overview of *Navigation 101*, a K-12 life skills and career planning system beginning in 6th grade with outcome-driven curriculum and more comprehensive school guidance and counseling to support students to become more college and career ready. *Navigation 101*, currently in its fourth year, is funded via state legislation and is aligned with Superintendent Randy Dorn’s five education and reform goals. This year brought a new public/private partnership with the Envictus Corporation and College Spark Washington (a foundation based in Seattle) to develop an on-line version of Navigation101 available to schools around the nation, for a total of 134 schools in 69 districts engaged in Navigation 101.

The program focuses on creating education around students’ passions via five key elements: personal advising, planning portfolios, student-led conferences (which includes parents: 85% of whom were in attendance in 2008, 94% of whom were satisfied overall with the conference), empowering students

with student-driven scheduling, and data evaluation. Early data evaluation is promising with graduation rates of Navigation 101 students at 84% vs. 72% non-Navigation 101 students graduating in 2007.

Navigation 101 staff are currently revising the curriculum and developing guidance statewide. The program currently has a large presence in Pierce County and Spokane, but is not as widely implemented in King County: currently, Madison Middle School in Seattle and the schools within the Highline School District offer Navigation 101 to students.

IV. Information - North Seattle Community College Facilities

Mr. Dan Fey reminded members that the former WorkSource North Seattle location integrated Learning Center North (LCN), which included King County Work Training Program and Shoreline Community College (SCC). The WorkSource North Seattle location was moved 1.5 years ago to a temporary location onto North Seattle Community College (NSCC). Due to college boundaries with LCN including a different college - SCC - LCN was moved to SCC.

Speaker Frank Chopp led the initiative for a new WorkSource North Seattle facility to be funded on NSCC. Should LCN be built at NSCC, the WDC does not currently have youth funds to support the facility, but would like to gauge the interest of WDC Youth Committee members to have LCN integrated into the new WorkSource North Seattle site. Mr. Seaman recommended bringing this forward as a future agenda item for further discussion.

V. Other Business

Mr. Rainey suggested the WDC re-visit at a future meeting the priority age of 16 + and discuss what we can offer for 14-15 year old youth. Mr. Houghton, Mr. Berkowitz and Mr. Moore agreed, noting the increased dropout rate of youth ages 14-15.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.