

Workforce Investment Board (WIB)

Youth Council

January 10, 2012 – 3:30 p.m.

Tucson Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce
465 West St. Mary's Road
Tucson, AZ

MINUTES

Voting Members Present

Vaughn Croft (Chair)
Bill Marquez
Jim Zarling
Liz Gulick
Tom Finton
Amanda Kucich

Staff, Partners & Guests Present

Steve Ramirez
Rebecca Pitman
Jesus Barraza
Brad Richards
Maria Suarez
MaryAnn Phinizy
Xail Hernandex
Fernanda Escalante
Ris  Hart

- I. **Call to Order** – at 3:33 p.m. Vaughn Croft chaired the meeting.
- II. **Action Item:** Jim Zarling moved to approve the October 2011 meeting minutes. Tom Finton seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.
- III. **Small Business Opportunities**
Brad Richards, Owner of Mr. Electric and Chair of the Small Business Growth Committee comments to the following questions:
 1. Drawing from your own observations as businesspeople, what are some benefits to hiring youth (roughly ages 16-21)? Advantage of hiring a youth is they bring a fresh perspective to the business. Benefit for the trainee is he/she shares common knowledge/skills.
 2. Are any of the small business owners in your network currently hiring? Yes, the challenge is finding the right person. Why or why not? We are all aware that the economy is a factor, but are there other factors (e.g. insurance rates, regulations, taxes, etc.) affecting employment that the general public is not aware of or does not really comprehend? He suggested stop blaming the economy for lack of business and instead find a new avenue. He changed his business from electrical construction to electrical services.

3. As an entrepreneur or businessman, what career advice would you give to a young person (ages 16-21) who is just starting out? Two biggest things: Reliability (i.e. be at work on time and consistently) and look professional (first impression counts).
4. What role do you think youth workforce service providers can play in preparing youth for their careers? Creating an environment where someone is willing to take a risk.
5. What skills, characteristics or qualities would you personally like to see in the up-and-coming workforce? Willingness, good communication skills, and professional demeanor (i.e. politeness, good customer service skills).
6. Suggestions for engaging employers to hire youth. Give presentations at various meetings/functions.

IV. Youth Employment in the Private Sector Presentation/Discussion Skills and Knowledge – Not discussed due to lack of time.

V. Summer Youth Employment Update – Maria Suarez
Maria reported that the Pima County Summer Youth Program process will be starting on January 27 (a month early than previously years). The Summer Youth Program application will be available on-line. Applications will also be distributed at the public high schools, libraries, and other locations in Pima County.

VI. Announcements

- Legal Notice for RFP-CSET-WF-2012/2013 WIB Workforce Investment Act was published and the proposal process has started.
- Jessica Aguilar will no longer be able to attend the Youth Council meetings due to her hectic schedule.
- AmeriCorps has partnered with 5 different high schools. Students have completed service learning projects which will be highlighted on Martin Luther King Day. Event will take place at Howell Peter Elementary.
- Goodwill's After School Youth Work Experience program will be starting Monday.
- United Way has established a great partnership with Pima County One-Stop.
- Job Corps annual Rodeo event will be held February 23, 2012.
- Boys Girls Club will be having a "Youth of the Year" for citywide event on February 11.

VII. Next Meeting – February 14, 2012.

VIII. Adjournment – 4:56 p.m.