

Workforce Investment Board (WIB)

Youth Council

March 13, 2012 – 3:30 p.m.

Las Artes
23 West 27th Street
Tucson, AZ

MEETING SUMMARY

Voting Members Present

Vaughn Croft (Chair)
Deborah Dixon
Liz Gulick
Fran Senechal
Amanda Kucich

Staff, Partners & Guests Present

Steve Ramirez
Tonia Kadiri
Diane Rhoades
Oscar Leon
Johanna Duffek
Charles Casey
Ris  Hart

- I. **Call to Order** – at 3:35 p.m. Vaughn Croft chaired the meeting. Attendees introduced themselves.
- II. **Action Item:** Approve meeting minutes – Postponed due to lack of quorum.
- III. **Youth Workforce** – Michael Guymon
Postponed as Michael was unable to attend the meeting.
- IV. **Presentation/Tour of Las Artes**
Elena West gave an overview and tour of Las Artes. Las Artes is an alternative high school for ages 17-21 years old. Students are required to work eight weeks on art projects and complete basic education classes. There are two levels of basic education, Level I and Level II, plus the community art project and the entire program takes up to 32 weeks. The community art project helps the students learn soft skills plus the students are giving something back to the community. The students get a weekly stipend; but they must follow the rules in order to receive the stipend. Classroom instruction is hands-on in a small group with personal attention and students are encouraged to learn and excel. The goal is to prepare students for GED testing and build employability skills. Staff will send the graduation invitation to the Youth Council.

V. Industry Sectors/Summer Youth Program/Healthcare Career Expo

Charles Casey reported on the industry sectors selected by the WIB and the Summer Youth Program. The targeted sectors are: Aerospace and Defense, Health Science, Natural and Renewable Resources, Emerging Technologies, Logistics, and Infrastructure. Current projections for the Summer Youth Program funding are 1,266 students and aiming for 1,400 students. The Board of Supervisors have two summer youth programs (one in June and one in July). Approximately 4,000+ students have applied for the program. The deadline to apply for the 2012 Summer Youth Program is March 16. The program includes: Intake, ESL classes, employability skills, work experience, GED, and a combo program (education/work experience). The age group is 14-21.

Amanda Kucich gave an update on the Healthcare Career Expo. There are 20 students that will be involved in organizing the expo. They will be calling businesses and asking them to have a booth. The students will work on this project for two semesters. Tentative date for the expo is October.

VI. Pima County Joint Technological Education District (JTED) – JTED's funding for 9th graders was cut 52% last year. Vaughn Croft suggested sending a proposed resolution to reinstate the JTED funding to the WIB as an action item. Staff will send a previous resolution to Vaughn and he will write another JTED resolution. The committee agreed to Vaughn's proposal.

VII. Next Meeting – April 10, 2012. Tentative location: University of Arizona Medical Center - South Campus, 2800 E. Ajo Way.

VIII. Adjournment – 5:12 p.m.