



Youth Council Meeting
Eastern Maine Development Corporation
40 Harlow St. Bangor, ME 04401
Penobscot Board Room at 5PM
March 18, 2009 –DRAFT

PRESENT:		
	Tom Hart, Jobs for Maine Graduates	Debbie Crockett, Beal College
	Shelly Reilly, Training & Development Corporation (TDC)	Kathy Coogan, TDC
	Dan Love, Penobscot Job Corps	Leilani Cyr, Tri County Technical Center
	Danielle Schaefer, student TCTC	Shawn Lagasse, MDOE-CTE
	Mary Fran Gamage, Maine DOL	Nancy McKechnie, TDC
	Carol Whitney, Shaw House	Jan Byard, Eastern Maine Medical Center
	Hal Casey, Hancock County Tech.	Karen Smith, Brewer Housing Authority
	Elena Bourakovsky, TDC	Liz Emerson, Student, HCTC
	Clarissa Westleigh, Student, HCTC	
	Joanna Russell, TCWIB	Jane Black, Eastern Maine Development Corporation

1. Call to Order

The Tri County Workforce Investment Board Youth Council met on Wednesday, March 18, 2009 in the Penobscot Boardroom at EMDC, 40 Harlow Street, Bangor, Maine. Joanna Russell called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

2. Welcome & Introductions

Joanna asked those who were present to introduce themselves and share any announcements or news that they might have.

- Penobscot Job Corps shared that they would like to find commuters who are in need of education. If they live within a 20-mile radius, PJC will provide transportation. The question was asked if students from Ellsworth could benefit from the provided transportation. Dan Love of the Penobscot Job Corps stated

that if there was interest from a group of students, arrangements could be discussed.

- EMMC (Jan Byard) is looking for employees at entry level in the dietary department and laundry department. They must be at least 18 years of age; be a high school graduate; have their GED or be a CNA.
- TCTC (Tri-County Technical Center) – Leilani Cyr stated that they are concerned about the employment outlook for their students. Students are going out of state to look for jobs. The nursing programs are full and a certain number of the spots are held for non-traditional students.
- Hancock County Technical Center (Hal Casey) is also concerned about the availability of jobs in the area.

3. Review last month's meeting

Joanna briefly reviewed highlights from last month's meeting. Topics included:

- An overview of the history of the Youth Council
- Overview of current WIA Youth Services
- Frequency of meetings
- Upcoming changes with the Recovery Act funds expected
- Requested the group to think about the commitment they wish to make to the Youth Council
- Try to find more representation from Piscataquis County youth and private sector.
- The MediaWorks website is not yet live.
- Revision of minutes to reflect correction of the spelling of Jon Farley's last name.

4. Overview of Youth Council member job description

A sample of the Youth Council member job description was distributed for review, discussion and revisions to define the focus of the group. Changes were recorded and will be included with the minutes.

The Purpose was reworded to read: Promote youth opportunities through available service providers and educational opportunities creating an involved, active and contributing future workforce.

Other areas of discussion included:

- How the funds are distributed to the WIA program – the USDOL received the fund, distributes these funds to the WIA programs in each state. These are then

distributed to the four (4) local area WIBs. EMDC is the financial manager for Local area 2 and works with TDC who is currently our service provider.

- WIA is defined to help people overcome barriers in their education and skill needs as well as preparation for employment. This population includes individual who did not finish high school, who may be homeless, a single parent or someone who has been laid off from work due to shutdowns or downsizing. These programs helps them developed or learn new skills to allow them to earn a level of income to support a sustainable wage.
- The definition of “Youth” is 14 – 21 years old; older youth are 16 -21 years old; there are in school youth, out of school youth as well as hard to reach and disconnected youth. This program is about building a skilled workforce with high growth in high wage industries in our area. What are the missing pieces?
 - Parents need to be involved
 - Educational staff need to be involved
 - Creating a pathway to get information out
 - Guidance is needed to help us focus
 - Education for service providers about what the tech centers do (educational population, goals, expectation, etc.)
- The biggest goal is to get the word out! Adult Education programs need to know what is available and we would like to expand to the high schools (principals and guidance counselors).
- Members of the Youth Council should understand the Rules and Regulations of WIA with regards to:
 - Performance measures
 - Eligibility
 - Services able to be delivered
- A list of 10 elements was provided which outlined options available to youth participants in their program design.

One challenge that we face is engaging employers. Many of them want to help, but don't know how to help.

Joanna will provide:

1. A link to the WIA Strategic Plan
2. Follow up on WITS
3. List of entities who are we are recruiting from (representation from businesses)

5. Commitment to Youth Council

Joanna asked the group for a commitment to the Youth Council. Everyone in attendance verified their commitment with the exception of Danielle Schaefer who will be leaving to attend school.

6. Youth Council meeting time frame

History – Meet Quarterly (additional meetings)?

June 17, 2009 (change time)?

September 16, 2009

December 16, 2009

The Committee determined that 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. would be a better time for the meetings to be held. The next meeting will be July 15, 2009 from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Location will be confirmed.

The Committee also determined the months previously set did not work well with the school calendars. Meeting dates will be held quarterly on the 3rd Wednesday of the month.

New dates: meeting time 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

July 15, 2009	Location to be confirmed
October 21, 2009	EMDC, 40 Harlow Street
January 20, 2010	Bangor High School – to be set/confirmed by Tom Hart
April 21, 2010	Location to be determined

7. Nominations for Youth Council Chair

Motion by Karen Smith; second by Dan Love to accept Tom Hart as the Youth Council Chairman. Unanimously approved.

8. Other Business

With no other business presented at this time, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:15 p.m.

*Respectfully Submitted by,
Jane C. Black*