

AD HOC COMMITTEE – Strategy for Youth

**October 13, 2020
1:00 pm**

ACTION MINUTES

STAFF: Azevedo, Brennan, Studebaker, Melchor, Thoo

I. CALL TO ORDER & QUORUM VERIFICATION

The meeting via Zoom Webinar was called to order at 1:04 pm by Chair Jack Estill.

Roll Call

Present: Bojorquez, Estill, Gomez, Perez, Vujjeni

Present subsequent to original roll call: Koepp-Baker (1:58pm)

II. OPENING REMARKS

Chair Estill thanked everyone for their participation and reviewed the agenda.

III. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

Director Melchor provided an overview of WIOA requirements, including mandates and budgets as they affect work2future. The major change under WIOA was elimination of the requirement to have a standing Youth committee although we still provide a youth program. Since a standing Youth Committee is not required under WIOA, most workforce boards no longer maintain them. Director Melchor, in response to a question, also explained that WIOA Youth Services included intensive case management for about 200 youth and referrals to partner agencies for about another 200 youth. Current WIOA youth services budget is \$979,510 for San Jose area and \$244,878 for South County. Contracts Manager Colleen Brennan provided a general review of requirements affecting the RFP process and what has been learned from previous RFPs, with a focus on WIOA youth programs. Mr. Bojorquez asked about the possibility of community members participating in the RFP process. Chair Estill stated he would bring that topic to the full work2future board. Staff answered various questions and discussion ensued among committee members.

B. WIA Youth Council

MIS Analyst Studebaker reviewed the history of the Youth Council that was required by the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), including required membership, duties and activities, and an explanation of how this differs under WIOA. Both board and non-board members were apart of the Youth Council under WIA. Ms. Studebaker explained that the committee became a

working group centered on performance numbers rather than direct engagement with youth which it had done in the past. It became more difficult to achieve quorum at Youth Council meetings. Staff answered questions and discussion ensued among committee members about how to reach and serve more youth.

C. Moving Forward

Committee members had a discussion on what can be done within the bounds of WIOA to help staff and work2future's youth service providers more effectively assist youth clients. Mr. Herrity recommended as part of public comment that membership in the ad hoc committee include outside youth expertise as well as two Youth. Other public comment and discussion focused on the importance of establishing priorities for the committee and recommendations on how specific members of the ad hoc committee could proactively help our Youth. There was also discussion on what the role and strategy of the ad hoc committee should be moving forward. Chair Estill invited the new Youth Career Service providers, Equus and IRC, to join the next ad hoc meeting and share their plans and strategies. He will be sending out possible dates for that meeting very soon.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Joe Herrity suggested that the Opportunity Youth Partnership (OYP) database would be a good source of data to understand youth needs as the committee moves forward.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

VI. ADJOURNMENT at 2:09 pm

Draft prepared by L. Thoo, reviewed by M. Melchor