CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL
Chair Estill called the meeting to order at 3:36 pm.
Roll Call
Present: Clark (arrived 3:38 pm), Estill, Herrity, Jaquez, Perez (arrived 3:37 pm, left 4:00 pm), Preminger, Vans, Williams
Absent: McGrath
All votes were taken by voice vote.

II. BUSINESS
A. Approval of Minutes
ACTION: Ms. Williams moved, Mr. Herrity seconded, and the committee unanimously approved the acceptance of the November 29, 2023, Youth Committee Special Meeting minutes.

B. Chair’s Report
Chair Estill introduced the meeting’s guests and briefly discussed his vision for committee member efforts in 2024.

C. Youth Forum Update and Recommendation Letter
Amanda Otte, Co-Chair of the Youth Forum 2.0 and San Jose Public Library College and Careers Pathway Coordinator, reported on the conclusion of the Youth Forum and presented a letter of recommendations to the committee. She highlighted three actionable community-generated recommendations to strengthen the youth and young adult workplace development field in the region. Committee members and staff held a robust discussion about these matters.

D. WIOA Youth Program Update PY 2023-24
Youth and Training Project Manager Mirza Handzar highlighted recent successes within the Youth Program. Equus Workforce Solutions Project Director Rick Robles provided a year-to-date report on enrollments and other metrics for out-of-school youth for the program year. International Rescue Committee Youth Programs Manager Kayla Nicholls provided a year-to-date report on enrollments and other metrics for in-school youth for the program year.
Both partners discussed efforts to support a growing number of youth participants who are unhoused or have unstable housing, as well as new partnerships with community groups and educational organizations that will allow them to expand their reach into various youth populations in the region.

E. Report on CWA Youth Summit
Youth Committee members Sofia Jaquez and Maria Vans shared insights from their recent participation in the California Workforce Association’s 2024 Annual Youth Summit.

F. Discussion of 2024 Youth Committee Goals
Chair Estill led an interactive discussion among committee members, guests, and staff around measurable goals and potential collaborative projects for 2024. Several action items were determined, including a demonstration project focused on the Youth Forum 2.0 recommendation to “connect school and work for Opportunity Youth and system-impacted youth” i.e., foster youth, justice-involved youth, or youth experiencing some form of homelessness.

III. OPEN FORUM
There were no public comments.

IV. OTHER
Strategic Engagement Manager Lawrence Thoo reminded the committee of Brown Act guidelines surrounding meetings and conversations that take place between members outside of the public committee meetings. He also noted that the next meeting of the Youth Committee is scheduled for May 9, 2024. There were no additional announcements or housekeeping comments.

V. ADJOURNMENT
Chair Estill adjourned the meeting at 5:02 p.m.

Draft minutes prepared by D. Walter, reviewed by L. Thoo.