

**Youth Committee Meeting
CareerSource Southwest Florida
In-Person and Virtual
October 18, 2023
9:00 a.m.
Minutes**

Members Present:

Dr. Brad Myers-Chair-Virtual	Curtis Brown-Virtual
Tim Goodman-Virtual	Christine Sardina-In-Person
Andrea Schaffer-Virtual	Aaron Stitt-Virtual
Vivan Watkins-Virtual	

Members Absent:

Kimberly Baker	Dr. Brian Granstra
Anthony Oakes	Carl Stringer

Staff Present:

Thais Kuoman-Staff Liaison	Lyntoria Thomas
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I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Brad Myers at 9:02 a.m.

II. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Dr. Brad Myers and Thais Kuoman welcomed everyone. Lyntoria Thomas conducted roll call. Quorum was met.

III. Approval of August 16, 2023, Minutes

Andrea Schaffer made a motion to approve the August 16, 2023, meeting minutes, Christine Sardina seconded; the motion was unanimously approved by the committee.

IV. Career Exploration Event Update

Thais Kuoman shared that the first Ad-Hoc meeting was held on 10/10/2023 and it was a good meeting! Thais explained that CareerSource Southwest Florida will be collaborating with Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida to put together a regional Aspire to Hire event. It will be a 3-day event designed to engage 8th-grade students in exploring different career opportunities in Southwest Florida. Thais explained that this year's event will also include 10th, 11th, and 12th graders from Charlotte, Collier, Hendry, Lee, and Glades Counties. CareerSource Southwest Florida will assist with recruiting businesses that are interested in hosting work experience students. Thais explained that by combining this event we will be able to reach out to more young adults.

Thais explained that the Aspire to Hire Event will take place April 9th -April 11th, 2024, from 9am-1pm with one of the nights open until 6pm and all ages will be able to attend. The Alico Arena located at 12181 FGCU Lake Pkwy E Fort Myers 33913 will house the event. Junior Achievement is working on the sponsorship packets and the budget. Thais emphasized that everyone will need to help with community outreach.

V. Youth Program Work Experience Overview

Thais explained that Work Experience (WEX) is a planned structured learning experience that occurs in a workplace for a specified limited period. The purpose of the WEX activity is to provide the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) participant with opportunities for career exploration, skills development, and reinforcement of the work ethic.

Work Experience Time Duration

- Determined by participant's employment and training goals.
- Length of time necessary for the participant to learn the skills identified.
- The WEX site has enough meaningful work activities for the participant.

CareerSource Southwest Florida has come up with two options for the training plans.

1. Part-time-29 hours a week up to 520 hours with the possibility to extend on a case-by-case basis based on the training plan, **OR**
2. Full-time -Up to 40 hours a week not to exceed a total of 320 hours. In case there is no possibility of extending training hours. **OR**

Work Experience Compensation-Paid WEX shall be compensated at an hourly wage no than \$15.00 an hour or 90% of worksite host's entry-level wage for the position.

VI. Metrix Learning

A web-based education and training learning environment provides customers with an opportunity to utilize a self-directed employability and soft skills training program. Our CareerSource Development Representative have the ability to assign the participant a skill track based on their career pathway.

VII. Open Discussion

Upcoming Ad-Hoc Meetings

Tuesday, December 5, 2023, at 10 am

Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at 10 am

Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at 10 am

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:34 a.m.