CareerSource Southwest Florida Youth Committee Meeting Minutes June 16, 2025 3:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Tim Goodman Andrea Schaffer-Virtual
Phil Magin-Virtual Aaron Stitt-Virtual
Robert Richards

Members Absent:

Brian Granstra Brad Myers

Christine Sardina-Virtual

Guest Present:

Kevin Donlan-Publix Supermarkets-Virtual

Staff Present:

Denia Kolek-Staff Liaison Ed Fritz

Peg Elmore Lyntoria Thomas

I. CALL OF ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 p.m. by the Staff Liaison, Denia Kolek. Welcomes and introductions were made. Quorum was confirmed.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT-None

III. APPROVE FEBRUARY 19, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

Tim Goodman made a motion to approve the February 19, 2025 meeting minutes; Phil Magin seconded; the motion was unanimously approved.

IV. WORKFORCE INNOVATION and OPPORTUNITY ACT (WIOA) GOALS

Denia Kolek gave an overview of the WIOA program and the focus on in & out of school youth with disabilities. Denia would like to increase the number of youths with disabilities who participate in the summer youth programs. Denia explained the importance of raising the awareness of parents and guardians of children with disabilities. Denia explained educated and informed parents are better positioned to advocate for their children's needs.

Phil Magin expressed the need to expand partnerships with service providers, and suggested workshops be created to educate parents about mental and learning disabilities. Phil believes the initiative would help improve the performance metrics of the Workforce Development Board.

V. 2025 SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Denia explained the Summer Youth Program currently has 230 participants and 114 worksites, a notable increase from the previous year. The program has expanded its mentorship, with eight mentors assigned across our six-counties that has enhanced our support and engagement.

Phil Magin emphasized the benefits of partnerships with local hospitals which will offer diverse work experiences for the youth.

VI. 2025-2026 MEETING SCHEDULE

Denia proposed to the committee to change the frequency of the meetings from every other month to quarterly, Denia explained the change will improve reporting outcomes.

Andrea Schaffer made a motion to change the meeting schedule from every other month to quarterly; Christine Sardina seconded; the motion was unanimously approved.

VII. OPEN FORMUM

Denia Kolek explained Kevin Donlan has expressed interest in becoming a member of the Youth Committee. Kevin introduced himself and gave a brief overview of who he is, explained his commitment to the youth, and what it is he does for Publix Supermarket.

Aaron Stitt made a motion to approve Kevin Donlan as a member of the Youth Committee; Andrea Schaffer seconded; the motion was unanimously approved.

IX. ADJOURNMENT- The meeting was adjourned at 3:22 p.m.