

**CareerSource Southwest Florida
Youth Committee Meeting Minutes
April 23, 2026
3:00 p.m.**

Members Present

Phil Magin-Virtual
Christine Sardina-Virtual
Aaron Stitt-Virtual

Members Absent

Tim Goodman
Brian Granstra
Andrea Schaffer

Staff Present

Vickie Pesonen-Staff Liaison
Peg Elmore
Denia Kolek
Lyntoria Thomas

I. CALL OF ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.; Lyntoria Thomas confirmed quorum was met.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT-None

III. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 29, 2026 MEETING MINUTES

Aaron Stitt made a motion to approve the October 23, 2025 meeting minutes; Phil Magin seconded; the motion was unanimously approved.

IV. NEW STAFF LIAISON

Denia Kolek introduced and passed the baton to Vicki Pesonen. Vicki will be the Youth Committee's new Staff Liaison. Vicki is the WIOA Program Manager for CareerSource Southwest Florida and brings over twenty-three years of experience in workforce development.

V. DISABILITY & RE-ENTRY YOUTH SERVICES

Vicki Pesonen, Staff Liaison, gave an overview of the disability and re-entry youth services. CareerSource Southwest Florida provide job-seeking services, classroom and work-based learning training opportunities that help our youth achieve self-sufficiency and sustainable employment and with the help of the Disability Navigator and the Front-Line Staff youth services participation has increased.

VI. OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH WORK-BASED LEARNING TRAINING

The out-of-school youth work-based learning services align with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) program requirements. These paid opportunities support the "earn-and-learn by allowing participants to gain occupational skills, work readiness competencies, and exposure to real-world employment settings.

VII. 2026 SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

- Officially launched March 2, 2026
- Successfully enrolled, hired, and begun program activities
- Successfully hired nine Summer Youth Mentors
- The program is making meaningful progress
 - 1000 applicants
 - 250 vacancies
 - 315 anticipated participants

IX. 2026-2027 COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

After a brief discussion, the committee decided to keep their meeting schedule quarterly and the meeting time at 3pm.

- July 30, 2026
- October 29, 2026
- January 28, 2027
- April 29, 2027

X. OPEN FORUM

Peg shared her staff is currently working on the two-year modification to the four-year plan and would like the Youth Committee to share their input on the strategic plan items concerning the youth program.

XI. ADJOURNMENT-The meeting adjourned at 3:20pm.