

MEETING MINUTES

COMMITTEE ON YOUTH

SOUTHERN NEVADA REGIONAL PLANNING COALITION

April 23, 2009

In attendance:

Fritz Reese, CHAIR, Clark County
Mary Ellen Donner, City of Henderson
Gene Hall, Nevada Public Education Foundation (UNLV)
Jhone Ebert, Clark County School District
Marc Joseph, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department
Tameca Ulmer, Alternate, Southern Nevada Workforce Investment Board
Melissa Clary, Alternate, City of Las Vegas
Louis Hixson, Alternate, Non-profit (United Way of Southern Nevada)
Christine Clark, Higher Education (UNLV)

Absent:

Ken Lobene, Southern Nevada Workforce Investment Board
Orlando Sanchez, City of Las Vegas
Delores Hauck, Non-profit (United Way of Southern Nevada)
Steven Horsford, VICE CHAIR, Non-profit (Nevada Partners)
Sam Chambers, City of North Las Vegas
Roger Hall, City of Boulder City
Craig Galati, Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce

Agenda Item 1. Call to order, notice of agenda compliance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law.

The meeting of the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition Committee on Youth was called to order by Fritz Reese, Chair, Clark County, at 1:13 p.m., on Thursday, April 23, 2009, in the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 E. Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada.

The agenda for the April 23, 2009, meeting was duly posted in compliance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law requirements.

Agenda Item 2. Approval of the Agenda for April 23, 2009.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda for the April 23, 2009, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously. Mary Ellen Donner, City of Henderson, and Christine Clark, Higher Education (UNLV), had not arrived yet although quorum was met without them.

Agenda Item 3. Approval of the Minutes from the February 26, 2009, meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes for the February 26, 2009, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously. Mary Ellen Donner, City of Henderson, and Christine Clark, Higher Education (UNLV), had not arrived yet.

Agenda Item 4. Receive resignation and accept nomination for committee membership. Recommended action - Take any necessary action.

There was no discussion by the Committee; and a motion was made and seconded to receive the resignation of Darryl Martin, Clark County, and accept the nomination of Fritz Reese as the representative for Clark County and the Chair of the SNRPC Committee on Youth. The motion was approved unanimously. Mary Ellen Donner, City of Henderson, and Christine Clark, Higher Education (UNLV), had not arrived yet.

Agenda Item 5. Receive an update from the Committee on Youth Technical Working Group and other working groups. Recommended action - Take any necessary action.

Cindy Ortiz-Gustavson, Committee on Youth Coordinator, gave an update on the Nevada Children's Summit hosted by Senator Harry Reid; an update about the strategic alignment of funding and priorities including a Regional Founder's Forum scheduled for May, 2009, co-hosted by United Way and UNLV; development of a youth voice initiative; and an update on the One-Stop Working Group.

Shannon West, Regional Youth Services Coordinator, gave an update on the potential development of a job corp site for Southern Nevada; an update on the School-Community Safety Working Group; and progress on adding a youth voice to the Committee.

There was discussion by the Committee about whether there were any changes in academic achievement as a result of increased Metro (police) presence; short-term indicator research development; and potential collaboration between UNLV and the Clark County Juvenile Justice Department.

No motion or action was required on this agenda item.

Agenda Item 6. Receive an update from the Southern Nevada Workforce Investment Board Youth Council. Recommended action - Take any necessary action.

Tameca Ulmer, Southern Nevada Workforce Investment Board (SNWIB) Youth Council, gave an update on the Council including: progress on the summer employment opportunity and internship contract negotiations; the contractor training program status (the first class will be held on April 29); centralizing the eligibility process; an Employment Intermediary position; and a Foster Youth RFP is expected in May.

Shannon West, Regional Youth Services Coordinator, gave an update on a partnership with Clark County School District to allow credit recovery for students enrolled in an SNWIB program as well as earning academic credits with work experience; and she announced that 700 work placement positions with mentorship and 421 youth employment opportunities would be available in Clark County.

There was discussion by the Committee about the readjustment of summer school requirements within the School District; the success of the summer Spring Mountain Forestry Youth Trail Program; and maintaining the flexibility of the "One-Stop" rules and restrictions as well as development of future replications of the program.

No motion or action was required on this agenda item.

Agenda Item 7. Receive an update from the Nevada Public Education Foundation. Recommended action - Take any necessary action.

Hilarie Robison, Nevada Public Education Foundation, gave an update on the evaluation results from November's Ready for Life Dropout Prevention Summit; continued development of the statewide action plan

now includes a Communications Plan portion; the Ready For Life resource (asset) map has grown to over 700 organizations; an update on the Washoe County (Sparks/Reno) Ready For Life progress and accomplishments; appreciation for increased alignment and collaboration with the Southern Nevada Workforce Investment Board; presentation of the “Cities in Crisis” report; and the Title I HOPE Center Open House is on April 23.

There was discussion by the Committee about the importance of readjusting public perception and students won’t begin to value a high school diploma until they see that a diploma is valuable; the overall picture is bad but realities are not as negative as some claim; disseminating good news and progress to combat negativity; establishing a community ethic that values an education is critical; strategies are on-target but day-to-day is harder to show progress; budget cuts and generating funding needs to be investigated; and possibly developing key message points and getting them to the right people at the right level of leadership.

The Committee also recognized and congratulated the Clark County Gang Intervention Team for receiving an Unsung Hero Award.

No motion or action was required on this agenda item.

Agenda Item 8. Receive a presentation on the Clark County Neighborhood Justice Center. Recommended action - Take any necessary action.

Lea Stromberg, Clark County Neighborhood Justice Center, gave an update on the Neighborhood Justice Center and presented a brochure titled “We’re looking for trouble...Trouble?”.

There was discussion by the Committee about types and numbers of cases handled annually; turn-around time for response by staff; peer-to-peer mediation; and an existing collaboration with UNLV.

No motion or action was required on this agenda item.

Agenda Item 9. Public Comment.

Sandra Ransel, Desert Rose High School, commented on the dramatic and significant changes seen at the campus over the past year, especially with the partnerships with Nevada Public Education Foundation and the Southern Nevada Workforce Investment Board; appreciation for the flexibility to analyze progress and change if needed; and the students have started their own leadership advisory board and have managed blood drives, scholarship luncheons and other programs.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.