

**Youth Council Meeting
January 8, 2014
Brewer Community Center**

Members in Attendance:

Shawn Murphy, PJC, TCWIB rep
Chris Dunbar, UTC
Melissa Harvey, PJC
Karen Smith, Brewer Housing
Denise Smith, EMDC
Jon Farley, EMDC
Marsha Higgins, MVYDC

TCWIB Staff:

Joanna Russell, Executive Director
Angela Oechsle, Program Assistant

Guests and others:

Jeff Robinson, Maine Army National
Guard
Galen Thompson, Maine Army
National Guard
James Westhoff, Husson University

Not in Attendance:

Gail D'Agostino, DHHS
Amanda Charette, Habitat for Humanity
Jody White, UTC
Laura Blake, Hannaford (notified director)
Tom Grogan, WINGS (notified director)
Tiz Beaulieu, MVYDC
Brianna Duley- Youth participant
Tricia Duley- parent

Paul Bolin, EMMC
Joyce Santerre, EMDC
Nikki Fletcher, Bangor Savings Bank (notified
director)
Heather Babcock, PJC
Merle Davis, MDOL

I. Welcome

TCWIB Executive Director, Joanna Russell called the meeting to order at 3:15 pm at the Brewer Community Center, Brewer, ME.

Introductions

Everyone around the table introduced themselves and gave updates about what is going on at their organizations. EPIC Maine youth event planning members were also in attendance.

Jon-EMDC currently making connections with other groups such as PREP.

Karen- Brewer Housing Authority's new training and education center is open. Families in housing and community members are welcome. Education-Training & job skills focus.

Bangor Adult Ed and others will use the center. First class is tonight.

Denise-WIA youth career education & training programs launching new cohorts of Career Compass students.

Galen-HERE program being delivered to high schools.--National certification on Anti-bullying program-- Galen just presented it at Harvard. It is a free program. Also, the guard recently connected with the Maine Principal's Association....goal to share resources and information.

Jeff-MEARNG is a community staple and the goal is to retain Maine people in Maine. It has an economic impact/involvement too.

Melissa-Work based learning coordinator at Job Corps. She is continually finding new business contacts.

Chris-Spring Semester at UTC starts Jan. 26 offering tech classes in automotive, welding and C.N.A.

Shawn-His goal for Penobscot job Corps for 2014 is to leverage the relationship with TCWIB and will assist in community events. Discussed ROI and Building Bridges program.

Marsha-transitioning to house up to 24 year olds(construction, modifying facilities); resident counsel; programs and rec. dept; religious and crochet class/program; Clothing closet and incentives program to allow youth to "earn" extras; continue to inform all about what we're doing here at MVYDC

James-Husson's career services assists in placing students into internships. Husson is offering a Business & Management Career Fair February 26th.

TCWIB staff- The board is currently involved in its 5 year strategic planning process for the local area. Additional projects include: procurement, EPIC youth event and pursuing other grant opportunities like *Youth Connect SGA*.

II. **October's minutes**

After review of the October 9, 2013 meeting minutes, Melissa Harvey made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Marsha Higgins. All were in favor, and the motion was passed unanimously.

III. **Update on TCWIB activities** –TCWIB executive director informed the group of current board activities. Information can always be found on our website: tricitywib.org

IV. **New board approved policy: *Youth in need of additional assistance policy***

This was a policy that was approved and implemented Dec. 12, 2013 by the TCWIB board. For those youth that do not meet eligibility requirement. (i.e.: 5 % that are perhaps over the income guideline or don't have a "traditional" barrier)

Background was given by Jon Farley. MDOL has the local area define the criteria. For in-school and out-of-school youth, they will have: "no or poor work history, never held a job for more than 6 months."

V. Update on 2014 event: EPIC Maine –

On behalf of the event planner, Kristin McIntire, who couldn't be here, Joanna read the status report on EPIC Maine.

Updates include: date confirmed by email vote April 24, 2014; transportation to the rural areas will be offered; really good ground work must be done to recruit high schools, as it is their vacation; EPIC will be held in conjunction with EMCC's Tech Day; will invite Commissioner of Labor and delegation; confirmed the keynote speakers-Ben Sprague & Col. Jack Mosher...and more.

The rest of the discussion was an interactive session regarding opening, schedule, marketing, and the use of social media to promote and how to inform youth organizations.

EMCC's placement on site—event planner will work with Dan Belyea, Pam Proloux-Curry Galen will request equipment like Black Hawk helicopter and offered to be on logistics committee.

TCWIB staff will work to recruit sponsorship.

VI. Youth Council Chair Position (to be filled)

The position is open and TCWIB executive director is actively pursuing a replacement. Will keep this group informed. You can email Joanna any ideas. We also need new youths at the table.

VII. Next steps

Next meeting will be April 9, 2014. (Last one before EPIC event.)

Action Items:

Joanna to follow up with Shawn Murphy about ROI

Joanna will check in with SFC Robinson and SFC Thompson about joining Youth Council in a formal capacity March 2014.

Joanna will continue recruitment efforts for new council chair.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Submitted by Angela Oechsle, TCWIB Program Assistant