

Youth Committee Meeting
March 28, 2024

In Person

Ben Beckwith
Alice Bunjan
Chris Casey
Dr. Val Harris
Robert Heape
Matt Jones
Betty Scheldt
Marsha Mueller-Boehler

Online

Dirk Muffler
Jennifer Russell
Heather Pfeiffer

In the absence of Chair Chuck McEvers, Matt Jones called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. Roll call was done by self-introductions. Matt welcomed Heather Pfeiffer with the Greene County Health Department.

Matt asked if there were any comments or corrections on the meeting minutes from the January 25, 2024 Youth Meeting. There being none,

Motion: A motion was made by Val Harris and seconded by Alice Bunjan to approve the January 25, 2024 meeting minutes as presented. All votes aye. **Motion Carried.**

Recruitment

Next on the agenda is the recruitment of new members to the Youth Committee. Matt would like to get a business member from the WDB to serve on the committee. Matt explained that it doesn't need to be a board member, any interested business person could be placed on the committee.

Youth Program and Budget Review

Ben reported on the Youth Budget. The Youth budget for PY 23 is right on target for the 80% obligation. Our plan is to add eight to ten North Greene students to the Paid Work Experience (PWE) program they have at the school. Chris and Kate Fox, the Carlinville Career Specialist, are working on recruiting two or three youth from Bunker Hill High School. These additions should bring our obligations to 85% which is about where we want to be at the end of the program year. The two Youth measures are 20% Work Experience and 50% Out-of-School Youth will both be met. We are waiting to see if the waiver goes through to keep the Out-of-School Youth at 50% instead of 75%. Hopefully, by the next meeting, we will have our allocations for new PY 24 grants.

Previous Discussions

Possible Projects:

Chris discussed the Bunker Hill project.. He has been meeting with Matt Smith, the principal. Before moving forward with the project, there were some questions that had to be submitted to the DCEO. On April 5th, Chris and Kate are meeting with the staff at Bunker Hill to see what direction they want to go with the program. The project will be based on the construction trade, and also the STEP program. The Career Specialists have started under the new matrix system for reporting youth participants to DCEO. The matrix is geared toward setting career pathways for youth. They are working with Chuck's youth participants in planning if they are going to a trade school, directly to work, if they are ready to create a resume. etc., to help them build a pathway. Out of nineteen active youth, nine of them are seniors. A few of these are already planning to go directly into the workforce. Dr. Harris mentioned a grant they may receive called Taking Back the Trades.. This grant would target youth and is focused on avionics. This grant would allow them to work with schools close to the college to build a dual credit course for career exploration in high school and then move them to the avionics program which would use Lewis and Clark's Industrial Electricity program as a starting point to employment at West Star Aviation.

Takeaways and Next Steps

Jennifer Russell – Greene County received their 24.7 million dollar broadband funding. They are looking for any digital equity projects around workforce.

Dr. Val Harris –The Youth Build grant has been submitted.

The next meeting will be Thursday, May 23, 2024 at 4:30 p.m.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 5:12 p.m.



Chuck McEvers, Chair

5/23/24
Date