

**ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD**  
**Youth Council Meeting**

Anne Arundel Workforce Development Corporation

March 21, 2003

Attendees:

Mahmoud Baptiste, Karl Behringer, Anne Biddle, Lisa DiGiacinto, Larry Johnson, Yvonne Kranitz, Susan Lanier, Megan Lynch, Clifton Martin, Vicky Mitchell, Grant Shmelzer, Lisa Stroman, Michael Yeakey

Other Attendees

Linda Wagner, USDOL  
Maureen Davis  
Andy Moser, AAWDC  
Deborah Gruen, AAWDC (Recorder)

Chair Michael Yeakey called the meeting to order at 11:07 a.m.

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the meeting of December 13, 2002 were unanimously approved, following a motion by Mr. Shmelzer and a second by Mr. Baptiste.

2. Additional Agenda Items

None.

3. Reflections on WIA Youth Conference in Butler, Pennsylvania

Ms. Stroman announced the retirement of AAWDC Executive Director Dorothy McGuinness and the appointment of Andy Moser as Acting Executive Director. She noted that a transition team from the AAWDC Board of Directors would be working on posting the open position and reviewing applications, as well as a strategic plan to develop the best workforce development programs possible for Anne Arundel County.

Ms. Stroman reported on her attendance at a WIA youth conference in Butler, Pennsylvania, where collaborative information on youth services from the states of Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia was presented, including the value of a strong partnership between workforce development and economic development in effectively serve youth. She noted that the Butler, Pennsylvania One-Stop was very impressive, and could be used for modeling and extraction of best practices. Mr.

Yeakey and Mr. Moser also attended the conference. Mr. Yeakey noted that the One-Stop was user-friendly and seemed to advance youth at a very effective pace. Mr. Moser noted that the Butler One-Stop was outstanding, and had a separate One-Stop facility dedicated to youth that contained a full-range of youth assessment tools.

4. Presentation: Junior League of Annapolis

Presentation postponed to a later date.

5. WIA Reauthorization Overview

Mr. Moser stated that the WIA reauthorization would likely be enacted by October 2003, although there would probably be significant changes that would impact both the One-Stop and Maryland Job Service. These would include:

- No mandatory Youth Councils
- Transfer of in-school youth funding to the U.S. Department of Education
- Distribution of out-of-school youth funding based upon local dropout rate formula
- Elimination of mandatory 51% business participation on WIB
- Rolling unexpended Welfare-to-Work funds into WIA

6. Funding Update

Mr. Moser shared that AAWDC must expend/commit 80% of its adult, dislocated worker, and youth funds by 6/30/03 or face recapture. Currently, there was concern about a potential recapture, which Mr. Moser and his staff were working fervently to avoid.

He also submitted the following youth funding requests for the Council's review:

- \$15,000 for the WAGES Program Coordinator salary for FY03, due to a lost grant
- \$15,000 for the WAGES Program Coordinator salary for FY04 (This would bring the WAGES program to a new FY04 funding level of \$80,580.)
- \$20,000-\$30,00/year for transportation costs for the Chesapeake Youth Center
- Funding a 20-hour/week position to work with PPW referrals and administer the Youth Council

Mr. Martin commented that it was his impression that the Youth Council expected their programs to move to self-sufficiency so the Council could move on to other funding prospects. Mr. Yeakey confirmed this viewpoint, but suggested that the Council consider sustaining their current programs since there was very little funding available for them at this time. Mr. Martin agreed that since major changes

in WIA funding might be coming, perhaps the Council should continue to support its current programs rather than venture into new territory.

7. Program Updates

WAGES

Grant Funding: \$65,580  
Spent 12/31/02: \$30,000

Mission: In-school program for eighth-grade dropout prevention serving 18 youth. Contains ninth-grade follow-up program.

Results: Program remarkably successful. Students happy and engaged. First marking period saw a 75% improvement in participants. Of the 18 students from last year's program, 14 went on to ninth grade. Of the remaining four students, two were removed by the courts due to custody issues, and two were removed because they were not Anne Arundel County residents.

Future Plans: Incorporating parent participation piece into program; collecting better information on transitioning ninth graders; new job shadowing experience for eighth graders.

Mr. Behringer suggested that a specific, structured ninth-grade transition piece be included in the next WAGES funding request.

Following a motion by Mr. Martin and a second from Mr. Baptiste, the Youth Council approved a funding cap increase for the Chesapeake Youth Center to \$130K.

Following a motion by Mr. Baptiste and a second by Mr. Yeakey, the Youth Council approved a \$15K increase for the WAGES program, to assist in funding the FY03 salary of the WAGES Coordinator.

Following a motion by Mr. Yeakey and a second by Mr. Martin, the Youth Council agreed to fund a Referral Coordinator at no more than \$35K per year. This individual would also act as the Youth Council administrator, replacing Andy Moser.

Following a motion by Mr. Shmelzer and a second by Mr. Yeakey, the Youth Council agreed to use any remaining FY03 funds to market the youth services website and supporting the Youth Council's project with the public school systems.

9. Anne Arundel County Public School Partnership Update

Mr. Behringer discussed the "Support Letter for Withdrawing Students", noting that the second page of the letter was an authorization for the public schools to

release information on withdrawing students to various non-profits. Mr. Moser had provided a list of probable organizations to receive student information, which was attached to the letter. Mr. Behringer planned to forward the forms to Mr. Moser received. and recommended that a dedicated position be created to provide follow-up to dropouts requesting information.

10. Website Demonstration

Ms. Maureen Davis demonstrated the Youth Council's new youth services website, which she had designed for youth services agencies and parents. She informed the Council that the website address would be [www.aayouthworks.org](http://www.aayouthworks.org), and that it should be available by the end of March.

Youth Council suggestions for the site were:

- Adding a Youth Council membership list, or linking to a roster on the AAWDC website
- Linking the youth services website to the MVA and Junior League of Annapolis websites
- Linking the youth services website to the Anne Arundel County Public Schools website
- Ensuring spelling mistakes were corrected

Ms. Stroman asked that an updated membership list be e-mailed to members. She also introduced representatives from the YWCA's STAR and Mentoring programs, who gave a brief synopsis of their programs' activities.

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on May 16, 2003, at 11 a.m., at AAWDC.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Gruen  
Recorder

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