

**REGION 7
YOUTH STANDING COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, May 18, 2020 – 4:00 p.m.
Cedar Valley IowaWORKS
3420 University Avenue
Waterloo, IA**

Youth Advisory Council

Lucas Plouff
Marsha Watters
Jeff Frost

Representing

Hawkeye Community College
Waterloo Community Schools
Waterloo Community Schools

IowaWORKS Cedar Valley Staff

Michele Clark
Steven Schwickerath
Chris Hannan

Hawkeye Community College
Hawkeye Community College
Hawkeye Community College

Jeff Frost commenced the meeting at 4:02 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Lucas Plouff motioned the approval of the agenda for today's meeting. Marsha Watters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Chris Hannan motioned approval of meeting minutes from April 27, 2020. Lucas Plouff seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Old Business

Michele updated the committee on WE Build and the process in which we are taking moving forward with getting this project implemented. We have confirmed a new start date of June 22 and the program will run through August 14. There will be two, five person cohorts to allow for better social distancing in the house. Each participant will learn high demand construction skills along with OSHA-10 and the core curriculum through the National Center for Construction Education & Research, which is a great foundation for 13 construction trade apprenticeship fields.

Michele included this flyer in the distribution of the meeting minutes and agenda for today's meeting. We will be using this flyer to recruit interested applicants, as well as doing this virtually through social media, networking, and referrals. Michele will be the point of contact for anyone interested in applying for the program and completing the application process.

The WIOA Youth Program continues to work with our participants virtually to provide assistance with job searching, resume development, and work readiness skills in addition to career counseling and exploration. At this time, all of our work experiences have ended and we are moving forward with other experiential learning activities such as on the job trainings due to COVID-19. Michele reported that we have started one on the job training with Croell Trucking with a recent graduate of the CDL program.

New Business

Michele reported that we are continuing to contact new registrants with Cedar Valley Iowa Works that are ages 24 or younger in attempt to share information about the Young Adult Program and see if there is any assistance they might need. We are seeing on average 50-60 new registrants each week within this age group mostly in part to them filing for unemployment benefits. We have had some response to our calls and emails to these individuals but mostly they are looking for answers regarding their unemployment benefits. We continue to offer a daily Zoom meeting for job seekers that may have questions regarding employment. This is being offered Monday through Friday from 10-12pm.

Other Agency Updates

Lucas shared that they are focusing on assisting current students with graduating in June. The staff at the Van G. Miller Adult Learning Center will be returning on June 11th and the center will reopen to students on June 15th. Teachers in the High School Completion Program will be making appointments with specific students to test. They are only able to test four students at a time however. June 30th will mark the end of the testing for students and the High School Completion Program virtual ceremony will be held on July 9th. Classes will begin again on July 13 and go through August 14 for existing students. Currently there is no way to test students on CASAS. A plan is being developed on how to provide this virtually however.

Marsha said tomorrow on May 19, plans are to distribute cap and gowns, returning text books and chrome books, and paying school fines for all graduating seniors in the parking lots of East, West, and Expo High School. This will be held by driving up and checking in with a staff person. The alternative weather date is Wednesday, May 20th at West High School.

Summer school plans have not been finalized yet but they are working on getting grading, withdrawal information, etc. with all being considered. There will be no live graduation ceremony this year but instead virtual ceremonies will be conducted.

Jeff told us that a Return to Lean Plan for the next school year is being developed and this is due by the end of June to the Department of Education.

Future meeting dates

The next Youth Standing Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 27, 2020 at 4:00pm via conference call.

Adjournment

Chris Hannan motioned to adjourn the meeting and Lucas Plouff seconded the motion. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 4:31 pm.