

**SANTEE-LYNCHES
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Youth Committee Meeting
Monday, March 6, 2017 - 10:00 AM
SC Works Center
31 E. Calhoun Street
Sumter, SC 29150**

Minutes

Youth Committee Members Present: Calvin Hastie, Sr., Chairman (Called In), Fred Brantley, Barbara Brown, Brenda Golden, Veronica Robinson, Zuelda Smith

Youth Committee Members Not Present: John Tindal, Ed Garrison, Kenneth Jenkins, Ramona Lies (Excused), Wendy Martin (Excused), Joe Perry, Sharon Teigue (Excused)

Staff Present:

Esmonde Levy, Workforce Development Manager
Becky Minegar, Santee-Lynches RCOG Administrative Assistant
Mary Brown, SC Works Manager

Guests Present:

Amanda Wagner, Eckerd Workforce Development (dba Palmetto Youth Connections – PYC)
Keidrian Kunkel, Eckerd Workforce Development (dba Palmetto Youth Connections – PYC)
Wayne Rogers, Eckerd Workforce Development (dba Palmetto Youth Connections – PYC)
Kevin Staggers, Job Corps, US Department of Labor

I. Call to Order, Welcome & Introduction

Chairman Calvin Hastie called the Santee-Lynches Workforce Development Board's (WBD) Youth Committee meeting to order at 10:00 AM and welcomed everyone.

II. Approval of Minutes – August 17, 2016 - (M)

No quorum.

III. Youth Performance Update

Ms. Keidrian Kunkel, Senior Program Manager for Eckerd Workforce Development dba Palmetto Youth Connections (PYC) briefly reviewed the Youth Performance of PYC for PY'16 through the period of February 28, 2017. Ms. Kunkel stated PYC has 104 Active Enrollments; 73 Basic Skills Deficient, 70 High School Dropouts, and 88 Unemployed upon enrollment. She then stated PYC has the following Performance Outcomes: 24 Literacy/Numeracy Gains, 17 GEDs & Diplomas; 21 Occupational Credentials; and 45 Placements in Employment. Ms. Kunkel then shared a success story: Biquan Sumpter came to PYC as a high school graduate and an out-of-school youth. He earned his Fork Lift Certification and is now employed as an Injection Mold Assembler making \$10.00 an hour at Suri Industries after completing On-the-Job Training. Ms. Kunkel indicated they had 13 Career Smart completers at the end of December 2016 with 42 completers overall this program year.

She mentioned PYC has been working closely with the Chamber of Commerce in Charleston and employers in the Santee-Lynches region as well as the Trident region to obtain feedback for their Career Smart curriculum that focuses on work ethic, presentation skills, and interviewing skills. It was added that PYC needs to focus on doing a better job training the youth when they go through Career Smart. Ms. Kunkel reported they had 9 (nine) graduates from Forklift Training.

Ms. Kunkel stated PYC has been featured in The Sumter Item several times since December 2016. She also announced an article will be coming out in The Manning Times.

Another success story was shared: Kevysia Frazier, who is 17 years old, recently earned his GED at Kershaw County Adult Education. Kevysia earned his GED within a month of enrollment and is very interested in construction and is participating in a Work Experience opportunity at Habitat for Humanity in Camden to learn construction skills.

IV. Financial Report

Mr. Esmonde Levy provided the Youth Financial Report thru January 31st of Program Year 2016: Total Contract Amount - \$600,000; Actual Expenditures - \$295,407; Balance - \$304,593. Mr. Levy explained how the projected monthly expenditures are calculated as follows: PYC's Grant Amount (\$600,000) x Projected Goal of 85% = \$510,000/12 month = \$42,500 that must be spent per month to reach the 85% expenditure goal. PYC is slightly below the goal through January, but is anticipated to meet the overall yearly goal of 85% by the end of the program year. Mr. Levy then explained the State Requirements - 80% Obligation Rate: Current year funds (Program Funds only); 75% expenditure Rate: Carryover and Current year funds (Program and Administration Funds).

V. Other Business

Ms. Brenda Golden shared information on an upcoming event: Economic Development for Sumter and Lee Counties and the Santee-Lynches Regional Education Center Advisory Board are partnering to have an advanced Manufacturing Expo for 8th graders, March 31, 2017, 9:00AM – 1:00PM at the Advanced Manufacturing Technology Training Center in Sumter.

Mr. Calvin Hastie, Chairman stated that he has a couple of ministers that are interested in joining the Youth Committee. Esmonde stated he would make contact with these ministers.

Mr. Hastie also shared information on an upcoming event in Sumter County: Festival on the Avenue, April 6 - 8, 2017 with golfing, a Living Museum, live bands, food and a parade.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 AM.

Recorded by,

Becky Minegar, Administrative Assistant, Santee-Lynches Regional Council of Governments