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Website: http://www.seta.net



Meeting of the Sacramento Works Youth Council

Date: Wednesday, November 10, 2010

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Location: SETA Board Room

925 Del Paso Blvd., Suite 100

Sacramento, CA 95815

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Welcome

2. Review and Approval of Minutes of the October 13, 2010 Meeting

3. Update on Sacramento Works for Youth Initiatives

4. Discussion: Continuation of <u>WIA Youth Procurement</u> Planning

5. Discussion: Recruitment new Youth Council members

6. Other business

Members: Brian Broadway, Patricia Espinosa, Matt Kelly, Bina Lefkovitz, Dennis Morin, Deborah Portela, Maurice Read, David Younger.

DISTRIBUTION DATE: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2010

Meeting of the SACRAMENTO WORKS, INC. YOUTH COUNCIL Minutes

SETA Board Room 925 Del Paso Blvd. Sacramento, CA 95815 Wednesday, October 13, 2010 8:30 a.m.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call: Mr. Kelly called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

<u>Members Present</u>: Matt Kelly, Bina Lefkovitz, Dennis Morin, Deborah Portela, Maurice Read, David Younger.

Members Absent: Brian Broadway, Patricia Espinosa.

Others Present: Phil Cunningham, Asoka Ishiura-Lluch, Christine Welsch, Julie Davis-Jaffe, Pam Moore, Becky Walton, Kathy Kossick, Robin Purdy.

2. Review and Approval of Minutes of the September 10, 2010 Meeting

Moved/Portela, second/Younger, to approve the September 10 minutes as distributed.

Voice Vote: Unanimous approval.

3. <u>Discussion Item – WIA Youth Procurement Planning</u>

Ms. Welsch stated that the presentations today will provide information to be used in the preparation of the upcoming procurement planning.

4. Reports on youth-related "green" initiatives

Ms. Welsch stated that last month the Youth Council began the planning for the upcoming youth RFP. The meeting today reviews the initiatives that this Council has funded. Presentation will be given by Soil Born Farms and the internal Sacramento Green Jobs Corps. The Sacramento Green Jobs Corps began last fall and it exposes young people to green jobs opportunities. The program focused a lot on environmental agriculture and water resources for younger youth. The programs for older kids focused on pre-apprenticeship and trades programs.

<u>Soil Born Farms Green Jobs Corps</u>: Shawn Harrison, co-founder and executive director of Soil Born Farms stated that they operate two urban farms; one in Arden-Arcade and one along the American River Parkway. Soil Born has been working with SETA for two years. The first program started with 12 youth and

moved into second year with 15 more youth, aged 16-21, coming from all Sacramento County. The program is designed to bring kids into the farm environment. Youth participants help to pack food and do cooking demonstrations. At the farm site, the youth are introduced to sustainable technology for food production. Their journey will take them into the field, greenhouse, sales, and the kitchen. Through those interactions, they research on different types of permaculture and the relationship between water use and fertility.

Mr. Harrison stated that it is Soil Born Farms' job to engaged youth in the work of growing sustainable and healthy food. A lot of the youth do not have experience working with their hands or outdoors and staff were not sure if it would resonate with the kids but they have found that it resonates with the kids they are working with. They have received additional funds to continue with the concept. Some of the youth will be going to work in a fruit tree glean program in cooperation with Sacramento Tree Foundation and will also be teaching people how to take care of their trees. Kids will also assist homeowners to build their own backyard gardens.

Mr. Younger inquired about the number of youth that drop out of the program once they find out how hard the work is. Mr. Harrison replied that there are very few drop outs and that the heat and the hard work did not seem to be an issue.

Sacramento Tree Foundation: Meredith King, Volunteer Coordinator. This is a local environmental nonprofit focusing on urban forestry. Their goals include planning more trees, enact policies to protect trees, and understand what trees bring to our community. There are three major aspects to their program: hands on training program, volunteer hours, and work areas. They have been partnering with SETA for almost a year. They had presenters at the beginning of the program talking about nursery standards, tree ID, tree biology, and jobs connected to those fields.

Ms. Welsch stated that this was a pilot program for the Sacramento Tree Foundation; it was a good program and the kids learned a lot. They started with seven youth and ended with six.

<u>SETA Green Jobs Corps</u>: Ms. Asoka Ishihura-Lluch is the staff with the SETA internal program. Once youth are enrolled, they go through the work readiness program and must do 100 hours of community service. The youth volunteered with Harvest Sacramento and asked homeowners if they wanted their fruit trees to be harvested. Youth also volunteered at Soil Born Farms and California Emergency Food Link. After their 100 hours of community services, they were placed into jobs that were in the green jobs industries.

Mr. Joseph Moore, Wildcare Association, shared his experience with the Sacramento Green Job Corps. He provided a slide show of why he joined the

program. Most of the kids involved in the program did more than 100 hours of community services because they liked doing it. They had resume help, job help, and all of it was in the green job resources area. Joseph is working with the Wildlife Association, a temporary paid job. This volunteer job will provide help to find other jobs.

Ms. Welsch stated that all of the kids have an IEP to assist the kids in how to develop and meet their goals. The youth now qualify for presidential acknowledgement of their community service hours.

Ms. Welsch distributed the planning calendar for the 2011-2015 fiscal years. Youth Council members were asked that if there are any other ideas that want to be incorporated into our program for the coming year, to let her know. There are a couple more meetings to develop the RFP which will be released in February.

- 5. **Green construction opportunities**: No report.
- 6. <u>Updates on Sacramento Works Youth Initiatives</u> Green Jobs Corps video: The video was played for Youth Council members.
- 7. Other business: None.

Meeting adjourned at 9:44 a.m.

ITEM 4 - DISCUSSION

WIA YOUTH PROCUREMENT PLANNING

BACKGROUND:

The Sacramento Works Youth Council began the public planning process for the procurement of WIA Youth services at the September and October 2010 Youth Council meeting. The agenda included an overview of two strategies that could be incorporated into the WIA youth program service model:

- ➤ Service Learning is a teaching strategy that integrates meaningful community service with instruction and reflection to enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities. To further explore this concept, SETA is sponsoring a training of WIA youth providers and SETA staff in Service Learning.
- ➤ Safe Community Partnership is a partnership of the City of Sacramento, SETA and faith and community-based organizations targeting services to the youth engaged in violence and gang lifestyle. This initiative is currently supported by three grants from the State of California and the US Department of Justice.
- Youth-related "green" initiatives

SETA Green Jobs Corps Soil Born Farms Green Jobs Corps Sacramento Tree Foundation

- > Other options for youth services/community input
- Review of RFP planning calendar.

The planning process continues with input from community members, youth service providers and review of youth-related demographic, academic and employment data. This data will be forwarded under separate cover.