

January 18, 2018

YOUTH OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
8:15 A.M.

**PARK FOUNDATION
CONFERENCE ROOM**

PRESENT: A.Hendrix, S. Kittel, K. Boardman, V. Zeppelin

EXCUSED: A. Iles

GUESTS Kit Kephart, DSS Commissioner, Becca Fitzgibbons, DSS Foster Care Coordinator; Jerame Hawkins Youth Advocate Program

STAFF: J. Mattick, J. Luu, C. Paler-Large

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Kittel called the meeting to order at 8:16 a.m.

WIOA YOUTH REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS UPDATE

The RFP has been released and responses are due January 25, 2018. There have been some questions received and the responses are posted on the workforce development board website. There was discussion about having a technical assistance session with prospective bidders for future RFPs.

Ms. Hendrix arrived at 8:22 a.m.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Ms. Mattick reported that the funding for the Disability Resource Coordinator position has been received. The funding will be used to provide services to individuals 14-24 years of age who self-attest they have a disability. There is also a significant amount of flexible funding available and this will help stretch training dollars at the One Stop and providing supportive services. She met with Marty Gold from Challenge Workforce Solutions to brainstorm an extensive list of services. The Office of Employment and Training Director is working to get the position created through Human Resources. She noted there will need to be a lot of work done to align the program with the WIOA Youth Program.

2018 SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM RFP REVIEW & APPROVAL FOR RELEASE

Ms. Mattick stated that there is still time to review the RFP and get it fine-tuned, but the Executive Committee will be asked to approve the release on behalf of the full board at their February meeting.

In her earlier email she highlighted two areas that need committee focus, the innovation section of the RFP and collusion. Last year the group was disappointed in the innovation section of the proposals received and agreed to modify that section this year to clearly spell out what is being sought. The second area the group decided need additional attention was the piece relating to collusion and adding language regarding colluding with other proposers.

Ms. Kittel stated the proposal currently reads that if items are included outside of the three special populations that have been identified those items may not be funded. Ms. Zeppelin stated the thought was that there may be higher costs associated with serving those special populations so the 65% requirement was lifted. Ms. Zeppelin asked if the 65% requirement is still relevant. Ms. Mattick stated the cost per participant was removed, but the 65% has been retained. She stated that additional benchmarking can be completed to see if this is something that should be changed.

The suggestion was made to change the innovation language and create a section called the "Program Design Waiver" that helps youth to overcome persistent transportation problems, link to area employers who have career pathways and/or reengage youth toward school engagement and graduation

or attend post-secondary education.

In terms of the section on collusion, applicants need to be aware that any evidence of collusion between proposers will be disqualified. It is understood that a degree of collaboration does occur among providers but a reminder will be included that reminds proposers of their responsibilities that collaborating on budgeting and the number of youth served by providers will be considered collusion.

It was Moved by Ms. Zeppelin, seconded by Ms. Boardman and unanimously adopted by voice vote to move the release of the RFP to the Executive Committee for approval on behalf of the Workforce Development Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was Moved by Ms. Zeppelin, seconded by Ms. Kittel and unanimously adopted by voice vote of members present to approve minutes of December 5, 2017.

Mr. Paler-Large arrived at 8:50 a.m.

FOSTER CARE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICES - DSS COMMISSIONER KIT KEPHART/FOSTER CARE STAFF

The Committee heard an overview of foster care services provided in Tompkins County. There are presently 31 youth in foster care including those individuals placed in residential facilities. Services can be provided to youth until they reach 21 years of age, but many opt out when they turn 18. There are also cases of youth becoming adopted, but this is a low number and usually occurs before age 8. The Youth Advocate Program contracts with DSS to provide youth employment services to foster care youth. Mr. Hawkins stated approximately 70% of the youth he provides services to are retained by the employer after their contract ends with YAP. He noted that he also assists youth who are “under the radar” on an informal basis.

Due to time constraints, there was consensus of the Committee to continue the discussion at their next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:43 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at 9:42 a.m. in the Park Foundation Conference Room.

Minutes prepared by Jennifer Luu.