

Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board  
**YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board  
41 Lewis Street, Geneva, NY 14456  
Monday, November 7, 2011

**ATTENDANCE:** **Members:** Menzo Case, Chair, Colleen Combs, Johnny Robinson, John Mueller, Sarah Rowe, Chris Edgar, Brian Young, Angel Cook, Kathy Swartout, Jessica Bacher, Kathy Templar, Patty D'Amico, Jocelyn VanGelder  
**Staff:** Pat Gopen, Youth Systems Coordinator  
**Guests:** Chastity Clarke, Deb McGrimley, Loree Martin, Cassandra Comtois

**ABSENT:** **Members:** Barb Delpriore, Karen Beals, Peg Birmingham, Valerie Mallard, Brandon Mead, Lori Greene, Susan Acquisto, Pat Pavelsky, Chris Kear

**CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS:** Ms. Gopen called the meeting to order at 4:00pm, introductions were made. Mr. Case joined in via teleconference.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes from September 12, 2011 meeting approved. Motion to approve by Mr. Mueller, second by Mr. Robinson. All in favor, motion carried.

**Guest Speaker:** Guest Speaker Tina Zapetis from FLACRA cancelled due to illness, hoping to present at our January meeting. Ms. Gopen provided handouts and played an NPR audio tape about the dangers of 'Bath Salts' and synthetic hallucinogen products being sold currently in our community. Several Youth Council members shared their knowledge/familiarity with the use of these products and Chairperson Menzo Case suggested that the Youth Council send a letter to local retailers discouraging their sale. Youth member Chastity Clarke offered to develop such a letter with the help of other youth, and Mr. Case agreed to meet with her to review. The Youth Council will review and make a decision on endorsement at our January meeting, if not before. Many members suggested that other FL service providers and organizations will likely join ranks against these products.

**YOUTH PROGRAM UPDATE:**

- Youth Counselor Loree Martin (Yates County) reported on the status of NWRC testing and introduced WIA youth Cassandra Comtois who successfully passed NWRC and has found it to be a recognized test in Missouri where she plans to relocate. Ms. Gopen provided updates on the WIA Youth enrollments and work readiness programs.
- Mr. Young reported that the annual **Finger Lakes Works...with their hands!** skilled trades and advanced manufacturing event took place on October 6, 2011 and was a great success by all accounts. 540 youth from 25 Finger Lakes school districts attended the event hosted by Finger Lakes Workforce staff with the assistance of over 120 volunteers. 44 Exhibitors provided hands-on activities and equipment.
- Ms. Gopen distributed flyers promoting the Finger Lakes Healthcare Alliance' upcoming career exploration event for high school youth. Somewhat fashioned after the Finger Lakes Works...with their hands! The March 14<sup>th</sup> event will provide

hands-on healthcare career exploration activities for area 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders. The event will be held at the Geneva FLCC campus on March 14 from 8am-2pm. See [healthcareworkforcealliance.net](http://healthcareworkforcealliance.net) for further details

**SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

- A. Membership Committee; Sarah Rowe reported that Lynn Fried and Beth Thomas have resigned from the Youth Council. Beth Thomas has accepted a new position with Victor Central School that conflicts with the YC meeting schedule. Lynn Fried is attending college evenings and feels she cannot afford the attention YC deserves from her membership. Ms. Rowe will convene the committee to review the current membership requirements and determine what actions need to be taken.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS /DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- Kathy Swartout reported on the annual **Great American Smoke-Out** on Nov. 17. Here is the website for the texting assistance with tobacco cessation for teens and young adults.  
<http://smokefree.gov/smokefreetxt/>  
For assistance with tobacco cessation, adults can either go to the New York State Smokers' Quit line at 1-866-NY-QUITS (866-697-8487) or the following website set up by the Dept. of Health and Human Services.  
<http://fcw.com/articles/2011/10/07/hhs-debuts-smoking-cessation-mobile-texting-apps.aspx>
- Patty D'Amico reported on the Nov. 10 county wide summit being presented at the Notre Dame Retreat House as a result of Risk and Prevention studies conducted by Drug Free Communities. Contact Patty, [patricia.damico@co.ontario.ny.us](mailto:patricia.damico@co.ontario.ny.us) for more information or to register to attend.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Adjournment at 5:00

**NEXT MEETING:** **Monday, January 9, 2012** in Conference Room B, Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board, 41 Lewis Street, Geneva, 4:00-5:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pat Gopen, Youth Systems Coordinator