

## YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board

41 Lewis Street, Geneva, NY 14456

Monday, November 2, 2015

**ATTENDANCE:** **Members:** Eileen Rucinski, Michael Whirtley, Betsy Russell-Orr, Chris Edgar, Kathy Templar, John McGregor, Jennie Erdle, Amanda Johnson, Wendy Cartwright, Loree Martin, Melissa Stuart, Lori Parish, Brian Young, Erika Martin

**Staff:** Pat Gopen, Dinah Brennan

**ABSENT:** **Members:** Reggie Walton, Eric Israel, and John Donahue

### CALL TO ORDER

#### Agricultural Career Day –

- Ms. Gopen opened the meeting by discussing the need for the Agricultural Career Day that the FLWIB will be hosting on April 25<sup>th</sup> 2016. This event will have three locations (Spring Hope Dairy Farm, FLCC Viticulture Center, Cornell Ext. Center) and will host around 200 high school students. Students will be bussed to and from locations in order to learn about the agricultural and food industry in the Finger Lakes.

#### Presentations –

- Mr. Chris Gerling discussed the increase in higher skill levels needed to be involved in the Ag and Food industry as opposed to a hundred years ago. Mr. McGregor added that the push for local foods and farm-to-table dining experiences are becoming extremely popular. The movement to include fresh foods in school lunches is also in the forefront right now. Mr. Gerling discussed different areas of the industry.
- Ms. Gina Lee noted that the FLCC Viticulture Center has just recently opened for classes in 2015. FLCC partners with Cornell to provide an AAS in Viticulture and Wine Technology and the opportunity to go on to achieve a four year degree from Cornell. There are 27 freshmen in the program this semester. Some students are traditional age and some are older. The program is evolving and growing, especially in the Finger Lakes.
- Ms. Marie Anselm discussed the workforce development piece in the agriculture industry and the need for that to be focused more heavily on. She noted that exposure of youth to the industry is important, as there are many diverse and unique job opportunities in the industry. There is a great deal of opportunity for schools to integrate the Ag and Food industry into their curriculums. Mr. McGregor noted that reaching the parents first could help the students become more interested and involved.

#### Youth Programs Update –

- Ms. Gopen noted that there will be another Educator/Employer Panel for school counselors on November 13<sup>th</sup> at WFL-BOCES. These panels educate presenters on a specific industry. This panel will focus on Skilled Trades.
- March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2016 will be the Healthcare and Human Services Career Day for high school students at FLCC.

#### Other –

- Ms. Erdle noted that the Young Entrepreneurs Academy still has slots open in the program. Information packets were distributed to the committee. For more information contact Jennie Erdle <Jennie.Erdle@flcc.edu>
- Mr. Edgar noted that the Wayne County Literacy Volunteers Scrabble Tournament will be held on Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. For more info contact Chris Edgar (lvwayne@rochester.rr.com)
- Ms. Rucinski noted that the FAME Soft Skills Summit @ FLCC's Viticulture Center will be held from 5-7p.m on Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup>.

A motion to approve the minutes from the September 7<sup>th</sup> meeting was made by Ms. Stuart, seconded by Ms. Erdle. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:01pm.

**The next Youth Committee meeting will be held on Monday, January 4, 2016 from 4-5:00p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted By,  
Dinah Brennan, Executive Assistant