

Youth Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday

December 19, 2023

12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Huntington One-Stop Office

Meeting Facilitator: Melissa Bias, Executive Director of Region 2 Workforce Investment Board

Present: Chairman Charles Shaw, Melissa Bias (Executive Director Region 2 WIB), Region 2 WIB Staff: Heather Merritt, Malissa Dishman, Affiona Brown, Burcu Delph, and Jakki Jackson. Region 2 WIB Youth: Anna Dishman, Lanae Odne, Tasha Perry, and Christopher Clark; Kristi Clark (Mom of Christopher Clark). Ashley Graham and Sally Nelson (Goodwill KYOWVA), Olivia Bird (Mountwest), Brian Hankins and Rachel Patterson (DHHR).

Call to Order: Pastor Charles Shaw – Youth Chair

Executive Director Report:

- **Melissa Bias** thanked everyone for attending our Youth Council Meeting. She applauded the Youth in attendance for their hard work and encouraged them to continue on in their journey to achieve their goals in life.

Youth Presentations:

- **Our three Youth Career Planners (Affiona Brown, Burcu Delph, and Jakki Jackson)** presented a slideshow presentation about their Youth in our Region 2 WIB Youth Program. They told us how some of their youth are attending CDL classes, and about a youth who is working while attending LPN school. They spoke of a Youth who enlisted in the United States Military after using our Virtual Headset and getting his GED. Some of their Youth were in Cosmetology Training and one Youth had graduated and started her own business. Our Career Planners have Youth enrolled in Penn Foster Online High School who will complete their High School, Graduate, and earn their “High School Diploma” in less than a year! We also have some Youth currently enrolled in Construction, Welding, Nursing, MA, Salon School, Lineman School, and many other trades.

- **Pastor Charles Shaw** spoke and told us he has Pastored 22 years at his local church, Real Life Christian Center Church; he has Pastored 10 years prior to that at another church. He informed everyone that he recently finished a 5 week construction job training program for the community partnered with Coalfield Development.

Adjourned at 12:51 pm

Respectfully Submitted by: Malissa Dishman