



YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICE (YES) ADVISORY BOARD

2929 Tapo Canyon Rd., Simi Valley, California 93063-2199 • (805) 583-6766

Wednesday, November 15, 2023, 8:15 a.m.
City Hall Community Room
2929 Tapo Canyon Road

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance
2. Agenda Review
This is the time to reorder and/or remove items from the agenda by consensus of the Youth Employment Service Advisory Board. Any individual member who will be abstaining from a discussion item should announce his/her intentions at this time.
3. Approval of the Minutes of October 18, 2023
4. Correspondence
5. Public Statements/Comments
This is the time allotted for statements or comments on matters within the subject matter and jurisdiction of the Youth Employment Service Advisory Board. Statements and comments are limited to no more than five (5) minutes per speaker.
6. Continued Business
 - a. Discussion of Hosting Inspire Entrepreneurship Forums
7. New Business
 - a. Discussion of the 2024 Interview Skills Workshops
8. Youth Employment Service Advisory Board Reports and Comments
This is the time for Youth Employment Service Advisory Board members' statements or comments on matters within the subject matter and jurisdiction of the Youth Employment Service Advisory Board or to request a future agenda item. This is also the time to make any announcements related to community events and other items of interest.
9. Coordinator's Report
10. Adjournment: Wednesday, December 20, 2023, 8:15 a.m., City Hall Community Room



Anna M. Medina
Deputy Community Services Director

If any interested individual has a disability that may require accommodation to participate in this meeting, please contact the YES Coordinator at (805) 583-6766. Upon advance notification, reasonable arrangements will be made to provide accessibility to the meeting.



DRAFT MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Welcome

Youth Employment Service (YES) Advisory Board Chair Gloria Bowman called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m. and Secretary Mailani Aljuwani verified that a quorum was present.

P	Mailani Aljuwani	P	Marc Netka		Alternates
P	Anthony Angelini	E	John Tolson	P	Ryan Fowler
P	Gloria Bowman	P	Ryan Taggart	P	Eric Verwey
P	Al Brown	E	Rikka Tignac	V	Vacant
P	Hayley Estrada	P	Jennifer Wigdor	P = Present E = Excused A = Absent V = Vacant	
P	Tim Harrington	V	Youth Council Rep		
E	Chelsie Kennedy	V	Youth Rep		
P	Rita Longo	*Arrived after approval of minutes			

Staff: Kristin Tignac, Community Services Coordinator.

Guests: Kelly Behle, Director, Simi Valley Public Library; Tammy White, WorkAbility program, Simi Valley Unified School District; Nominated YES Advisory Board members Amey Gupta and Rithmika Naveen; and Don Frick and Cynthia Avila with the Workforce Development Board of Ventura County.

2. Agenda Review

The agenda was approved as presented.

3. Approval of Minutes from September 20, 2023

ACTION: A motion to approve the September 20, 2023 minutes as written was made by Al Brown and seconded by Rita Longo.

YES Advisory Board vote: 13 Ayes; 0 Noes; 2 Abstentions.

The motion passed.

4. Correspondence

No correspondence was received.

5. Public Statements/Comments

No public statements or comments were made.

6. Informational Presentation

- a. Ventura County Economic Overview by the Workforce Development Board of Ventura County Team

Don Frick, JOURWDP, CBSC, Performance and Compliance Manager and Cynthia Avila, Business Solutions Manager, with the Workforce Development Board of Ventura County (WDB) introduced themselves, gave

an overview of their division and then discussed the data results published in the recently released Ventura County Economic Review completed by Lightcast, a data mining company. Mr. Frick covered a number of statistics from the 138 page study, such as top growing and top earning occupations in Simi Valley. He also stated that the results found in the Community Indicators section could be helpful for organizations to include when applying for grants.

Ms. Avila announced that for career exploration the WDB had recently purchased ten virtual reality sets, where students could experience an immersive experience as a mechanic changing oil, as emergency services personnel in an emergency room, and more industry specific virtual simulations.

Ms. Avila also mentioned that the WDB would be interested in partnering with agencies throughout Ventura County in hosting job fairs.

Mr. Frick also reported that out of the 1,500 individuals in Ventura County currently collecting unemployment benefits, 210 were Simi Valley youth ages 16 to 25.

Mr. Frick announced that the WDB would work on a Good Job Quality program in 2024 looking at best practice policies that would help employers in retaining employees by creating a better work environment.

7. Continued Business

No continued business was discussed.

8. New Business

a. Discussion of the 6th Annual Volunteer Fair on Wednesday, November 8, 2023

Ms. Tignac reported that 14 non-profit organizations had registered to participate in the Volunteer Fair. She stated that the press release had been sent to local news media and that the flyers had been shared with all middle and high schools.

Ms. Tignac stated that students could receive up to two hours of community service by attending and participating in a number of onsite service projects that would take place at the fair.

Action item: Board members to promote the event within their networks.

b. Discussion of Startup Simi

Former YES Advisory Board Member and champion for the Startup Simi's inception gave an overview of the purpose of business incubators and best practices, including a strong partnership with a local college.

Ms. Tignac reported that after a few years the participation level had dropped significantly at Startup Simi committee meetings.

Kelly Behle, Director of the Simi Valley Public Library (Library) stated that the Library was in the process of renovating the facility. She also reported that a newly formed Simi Valley Public Library Foundation had begun meeting. Ms. Behle also discussed a few new program ideas the Library would like to pursue, including the addition of a makerspace and more entrepreneurship partnerships.

Board members discussed benefits and challenges of continuing with the committee, as well as options, such as sending a memo with recommendations in support of the Simi Valley Public Library's vision of creating a makerspace and business incubator and continuing to host Inspire Entrepreneurship speaker series events.

The Following Board members volunteered to serve on a newly formed Entrepreneurship committee: Anthony Angelini, Amey Gupta, Rithmika Naveen, Anika Nedunuri and Ryan Valencia.

c. Discussion of Hosting Inspire Entrepreneurship Forums

Board members discussed the benefits of continuing to host Startup Simi Inspire Entrepreneurship forum events.

The Following Board members volunteered to serve on a newly formed Entrepreneurship committee: Anthony Angelini, Amey Gupta, Rithmika Naveen, Anika Nedunuri and Ryan Valencia.

9. Youth Employment Service Advisory Board Reports and Comments

Gloria Bowman stated that For the Troops was asking the community for any leftover Halloween candy to place in care packages that would be sent overseas to active military personnel. She announced that Board members could bring their leftover candy to the next YES Advisory Board meeting and she would deliver to For the Troops.

10. Coordinator's Report

Ms. Tignac stated that Amey Gupta, Rithmika Naveen and Anika Nedunuri had all been nominated for appointment to the YES Advisory Board, with the official appointment on the City Council's agenda on Monday, October 23, 2023.

11. Adjournment: Wednesday, November 15, 2023, 8:15 a.m., City Hall Community Room

Chair Gloria Bowman adjourned the meeting at 9:36 a.m.