

Present: Kevin Price, Janelle Martinsen, Linda Gostas, Philippe Chino, Brooke Kaercher, Jaime Lewis, and Shari Peddicord.

UPDATES

▪ **Strategic Plan Goals & Initiatives**

- Shari will be sending out the basic framework of an Action Log, which will serve as the agenda for future meetings.
- Main initiatives from subcommittees to Shari Peddicord, requested by 4/11/08.

▪ **Task Force/Subcommittee Updates:**

- Career/Technical Education – Philippe indicated this task force will be needing support from the business community and from parents who support technical education in the high school.
- Career Expo (Sheridan College) April 17th after school (Jrs & Srs)
- Job Fair (SHS) – May 8th -- Chamber will be sending the information after the Career Expo.
- 3 main focus areas have been chosen by the CTE Task Force:
 - **Jobs for students now** -- Contact Kathleen Pilch (SHS) 674-7405
 - ✓ Summer jobs
 - ✓ Part-time jobs during school year
 - ✓ Internships
 - ✓ Apprenticeships
 - **Career Academies** (Fall 2009 – anticipated start of Freshman Academy for Career Exploration in the 16 career clusters identified by the State of WY) –
 - ***Question*** of what is being done with the 7th grade class right now to prepare them for the Academy in Fall 2009?
 - ***Suggestion*** to recruit parents of current 7th graders
 - ✓ Need industry partners from the business community
 - Help with curriculum creation and review
 - Industry support to the academies
 - Equipment
 - Specialty teaching
 - Mentorships
 - All career academy schools visited indicated this is one of the most important elements of their success with the career academy format.
 - **Enhanced programs with Sheridan College**
 - ✓ Concurrent Enrollment for credit
 - ✓ Dual Enrollment for credit
 - ✓ Strengthen certificate programs

- Developing promotional programs within each area to market technical classes to parents, students, legislators and the business community
- hYPe
 - Purpose is to help young professionals get “plugged in” to the community activities that interest them and to lobby the community when they, as an interest group, wish to see amenities and changes that will enhance the community for their age group.
 - Working on expanding web presence: Forward Sheridan website – www.forwardsheridan.com
 - Partnering with Chamber of Commerce – press release to announce partnership
 - Page on MySpace and LinkedIn – not unveiled yet (will be unveiled with press release)
 - Steering committee meets monthly (more often when needed)
 - General membership meets monthly (no charge for membership)
 - They have received some funding from First Federal and additional funding is being sought
 - More activities are planned
 - People are starting to look to hYPe as a resource
 - Members are posting information at their companies to recruit young workers
 - Creating new collateral materials to be printed to take to HR managers with cards
 - Retreat panelists included Sheridan College (Mark Englert) with class requests
 - Cindi Thiede would be the person to contact for community education classes they are interested in taking.
- FUSE (Fully Utilizing Sheridan’s Experience) – Older Worker Subcommittee
 - Next step is an Employer-Older Worker Forum
 - Tentatively late April (April 29) or early May (May 6 or May 8)
 - This will be a facilitated session
 - Breakouts will identify needs of each group
 - Then come back together to report and establish next steps
 - 3 subcommittees
 - ✓ Facilities/logistics & preparation
 - ✓ Older Workers – invitations, sets of questions to be addressed
 - ✓ Employers – invitations, questions to be addressed
 - ✓ Contacting SHRM for participation: Speak at SHRM meeting for 5 minutes – introductory email and have 5 minute presentation with collaterals @ SHRM meeting in April
 - ✓ Inviting companies that have been making it work
 - Develop objectives based on needs and willingness to be flexible
 - ✓ Define needs of groups & bring together toward common goals
 - Employers willing to restructure job descriptions to accommodate seniors
 - Seniors who wish to remain in workplace
 - Establish initiatives based on needs
 - Report from SCSEP (Senior Community Service Employment Program) Meeting 3/24/08 – Philippe Chino, Carmen Rideout and Shari Peddicord attended.
 - State Agency under Department of Employment

- Target: low-income 55+ workers
 - Goal: Helping low-income seniors enter or remain in the workplace
 - Sister agencies:
 - ✓ ExperienceWorks (local contact Kate Taylor 673-1602)
 - ✓ WY Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (local contact Nancy Etchingham)
 - ✓ WY Dept of Workforce Services (local contact Deb Pruss or Melana Cummings)
 - Looking to Workforce Services to look at a database that serves older workers – larger icons, more user friendly
 - Looking at training opportunities
- **Jobs Database** – Janelle Martinsen, Jaime Lewis, Brooke Kaercher, Workforce Svcs Staff.
- Permission from State was acquired to create web ring we could all use on our websites through links
 - Trying to run everyone through the database Workforce Services has now – however, reports are that it is not very user friendly.
 - Nothing can be done about the state website – it is maintained by the state web designer and webmaster with federal input
 - Local website is possible, but we would need to be able to link to the spidering capability of the state website.
 - Problems with posting jobs:
 - Going back afterward and filling out why they were not hired, grading, etc.
 - Spidering problems – key words
 - Employers who posted were not getting quality applicants through workforce services
 - Janelle Martinsen is willing to see if the Chamber board is willing to put something like this on Chamber's site (they have infrastructure already)
 - ✓ Possible charges: Members free – cost to nonmembers
 - ✓ Workforce Services can spider to Chamber site
 - ✓ Maintenance will have to be discussed (hopefully maintained by employers themselves)
 - ✓ Will need expirations dates to automatically expire from site
 - ✓ Maybe seek workforce development grant
- **Military Workers** – Did not meet yesterday. Will present next meeting.

NEXT MEETING: April 24, 2008 – 12:00 Noon