

**Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting
December 8, 2016**

In attendance: Scott Miller, Joanne Mondell, Karen Retorick, Chris Tsai, Pat Sterner, Shirley Abernathy

Minutes were approved by Karen and Pat.

Chairman's Report – Parking spots – Scott requested for handicapped parking out front of OVR; due to the nature of the OVR. The parking should be where the handicap ramp goes out and does not go into traffic. Scott will be drafting a reminder letter to Anthony Cipola, Parking Authority 321 A Pine Street Williamsport PA.

OVR Update – Chairmen for the local Citizens Advisory Committee will be trained in Harrisburg next spring.

Events

- -Job Fair Preparation on 10/11/16 at Genetti Hotel. Attendance was low. Genetti was great. Manager of the hotel was great.
- -Fall Job Fair on 10/19/16 – very good turnout – 70 participants.

Question– Is there any way to tell how successful job fairs are? Follow up would have to be done with participants to see how successful they were. Also it might be a good idea to get back with the employers and see if they were able to find candidates they hired through the job fair. Also was the Job Fair laid out well? Is there any way that we can improve it?

WIOA: PETS/Section 511 –

1. Youth
2. Students that are potentially eligible
3. Evaluation of students in Life Skills to determine if they are able to be competitive employed.
4. Collaboration within the community businesses human services agencies.

-**Final Regulations** effective 9/19/16 – PA had a high accuracy of interpretation of the regulations.

-**The "Paradigm Shift"** – Change in how counselor do their job - now under WIOA from Autonomy to a mini team approach. From eligibility a must to

potentially eligible as long as students have an IEP or covered under 504. From Individual services to Group services. Our office has decided to have a Transition Unit Meeting every month with counselors' supervisors' social workers etc. (mini team). VRC still need to take the lead but it should be more of a team approach. IEP meeting attendance is a counselor requirement. OVR can NO LONGER serve Homemakers.

Scott noted that Williamsport Area High School does not want to give the student an IEP. Can OVR send a letter on behalf of a client to formally request an IEP meeting. Dr. Dowell's has evaluated this girl and the records have been given to the school and the school board but this client still does not have an IEP. It is recommended that Scott have an advocate to go with him to see why his daughter does not have an IEP. Scott believes they will not give her an IEP because they will be required by law to spend money.

At Williamsport Area High School over 30% of the students have an IEP.

-Unemployment Call Centers Closed – 450 state employees laid off. Senate did not vote for budget. Clients can go to local CareerLink to use the designated phone.

-Member Recruitment – Former OVR customers will be target. Parents of customers. Community Employer- Business (may be more willing if family member who is disabled.) Each member to bring in a new member. In the future possibly an application process. Chris plans to draft a letter about what CAC is for and what time commitment is required and the purpose of CAC. Next meeting it will be reviewed. Transition counselors can chip in to help recruit parents.

Video on inspiring individuals with disabilities – tabled to next meeting.

Members report – Hope Soap has really taken off. Employees are paid. Learning all kinds of skills.

Next meeting – March 16, 2017 @ 1 PM. (depending on training date in Harrisburg)

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Mondell