

Construction Center of Excellence
Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
October 4, 2005 H-103

Present: Anne Wetmore, Bill Bowser, Leanne Liddicoat, Rebecca Harrison, Tawny Sayers, John Schaufelberger, Larry Leet, Steve Ignac, Dave Stahnke, Dick Chamblin, Rachelle McGinnis, Denise Salo, Mark Kearns, Beth Blanchard, Mike Hudson, Heather Fredericks.

Staff: Beth Arman, Judy Amico

Topics of Discussion:

Welcome/Introductions

Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Approval of Minutes

Old Business

- Updates on Website, Training Survey, and Scholarships
- Math Projects

New Business

- Coordination with Skill Panels
 - Note: Snohomish County Construction Careers Partnership will be seeking new partnership coordinator
 - November meeting date set for construction skill panels across state
- Promotion of Construction Industry
 - "Steps" Magazine
 - CCE Quarterly Newsletter
 - National Careers in Construction Week (October 17-21, 2005)
 - Governor's Initiative
- Planning for 2nd Annual Construction Workforce Conference (March 1 and 2, 2006)
- Center of Excellence Evaluation (June 9, 2006)

Other

Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Nominations were taken for Chair and Vice Chair.

Was approved that Bill Bowser would be Chair and Jim Elmore would be vice chair.

Old Business

Old Business covers updates on the Website, the training survey, and scholarships.

At the last meeting held in June the committee looked over the website and gave suggestions and comments. The website went live at the end of June 2005. Judy has been given authorization to go into the website and make additions and deletions.

We are staying on top of Coming Events page. When an event is over Judy takes it off the website but does save them to a document so they can be part of the evaluation in January to show what we have been doing.

Beth asked all members if they have any links to other sites that we should link to, to please let us know.

We are working on the training survey. We want to create a searchable database. We have sent out questionnaires to training providers throughout the state and have gotten some responses back. We are waiting to get a work-study person to help create the database. Hopefully it will happen this fall.

Steve Ignac asked what the program and processes were that we were looking for. Beth stated that we asked for the topics that were taught plus if the classes open to the public. There are several categories of training and sub-topics. Also, we are asking for contact information. We are not asking for tuition information since that information changes so often.

RTC got a large donation from [Vern Gambriell](#) which is to be shared with South Seattle College for construction education. It is an open endowment fund so we will not be getting any available funds till next year. Beth asked for suggestions on how the money should be set up and how the funds should be spent.

Members who have had dealings with scholarships before suggested:

1. Letters and essays written by interested people.
2. If given to someone who is already enrolled they are already dedicated to classes.
3. Can be used for tuition plus other areas such as books.
4. Would be nice if the person that was awarded the scholarship be acknowledged at end of year with other recipients.
5. Information passed on to "Youth build Programs" for consideration.
6. Set up where students have to take a quarter of classes first to make sure they like the program.
7. Should be awarded to high school students and not existing college student.

The criteria should be; good grades, recommendation from teachers and parents, and a letter from the school district.

Leanne said they look at grades and financial needs. Also, interested individuals are brought in and have an interview. Leanne also mentioned that if the grade point is set to high some students won't apply. AGC sets their grade point requirement at 2.5 but students are basically higher.

It was agreed by most people on the committee that if an essay is involved it leaves a lot of people out of the running because not all interested people are good at writing essays and some of the possible recipients could be from ESL programs.

We also need to look into how we want the sums distributed, as one lump sum or a bunch of smaller scholarships.

Rebecca thinks industry panel interviews are good. The candidates are asked why they want to go into construction. Some interest individuals could be an in school or they could be dropouts. If the individual is a drop out would need to be working toward GED to qualify for a scholarship.

Math Project.

The Construction Math Project is going forth fast and furious. The booklet will include construction math examples and is going to be shared with K-12 teachers and students. Beth would like to have some copies of the booklet to pass out at the Pathway to Apprenticeship Conference to be held in Chelan Oct. 19th and 20th. We also want to send copies to the teachers who participated in the AGC Summer Math Institution.

Beth thanked all the people that had contributed lessons. We have good examples from a lot of the trades, such as; carpentry, drywall and surveying. We are hoping for some drafting and estimation examples.

We have run into some copyright issues but we are contacting people asking for permission to use parts of the material.

Judy is making a list of books and websites to have as resources. There will be no cost for the booklet at this time but we don't know what may happen in the future.

We are continuing to work with the Skill Panels. We had a meeting in the spring and are scheduling another in November which will be held in Yakima. Anyone is welcome to come. Vance Titus is moving and will be vacating a spot on the Snohomish County skill panel. Beth has worked with the skill panels for the past 4 years and there is a lot of great synergy and they share a lot of ideas. Beth Blanchard commented that she would like to go to the meeting. As the date gets closer we will report more.

Promotion

“STEP” Magazine

Leanne talked about the magazine they are putting out. Everyone is really excited about it. Their target is high school kids. They are trying to promote the construction industry, apprenticeship, and engineering. One article in the magazine this month is about the new Tacoma Narrows Bridge. They interviewed a lot of people that are involved in it. There are also articles that talk about career paths. “If I Had a Hammer” is mentioned and the Pierce County Electrified Program where a lot of students were interviewed.

The first edition will be out in a few days. It will be connected to NW Construction but also additional copies will go to schools. The next edition will be in March. It will be distributed in Bellingham, S. Kitsap, Central WA, Pierce and King County.

Newsletter

We are hoping to get our first newsletter out later this month. It will be distributed quarterly not monthly. Some of the articles we are hoping to include are stories such as OSPI adopting NCCER standard and the eighteen High School teachers that were NCCER accredited this summer at a workshop. Also, we would like an article on the outlook of the construction industry. It was suggested that we put the e-mail addresses of teachers that were accredited in the article. Another suggestion was that we profile someone who has just gone into the construction industry. It may catch the attention of high school students.

Looking also to promote other colleges. One example is that Pierce County College just started a new Construction Management program.

Need to focus on teaching companies on where they can hire people. Maybe employer could post jobs and let people know there is an opening.

Denise Salo told us about how Sound Transit has a program working with Rainier Valley. And pre-apprenticeship programs. They have contracted with industry partners to send people for interviews. They will visit the job sites to see how the people are doing and if there are any problems.

National Careers in Construction Week

NCCER has duped October 17th and 21st as the first annual National Career in Construction Week. We thought about having a big event but there just was not enough lead time. Governor Gregoire is excited about launching an awareness of the construction industry. The Governor has signed a Proclamation. Other organizations were contacted to see if anyone else was going to do anything but they weren't. We will put together a local press release and possibly talk about the scholarship we want to offer.

Leanne mentioned how they would be going to the Tacoma Narrows bridge construction area and will be interviewing some workers. She said she can give us a story about it.

Heather talked for a few minutes about what she wants to do when she starts the director job.

She wants to contact each member of the committee and find out:

- 1) how they like the committee
- 2) what things they need
- 3) talk about projects and resources.

Governor is interested in the Running Start Program. She wants to work with us to get input. Governor may introduce a bill for apprenticeship programs. Wants to coordinate a meeting with the people to draft a bill. Will be putting together a subcommittee to work with the governor. People who are interested are: Tawny Seats, Bill Bowser, Rachelle McGinnis, Leanne Liddicoat, and Jim Elmore.

Tomorrow Beth is going to a conference hosted by the Snohomish WDC and Everett School District. There will be about 110 tables with a lot of people from the construction industry.

March Conference

Want to have the conference earlier this year so more construction companies can participate also will give us more time to get the word out. Will need to start thinking who we can get for key speakers. Maybe the governor. Was suggested a sub committee be formed. Steve Ignac, Dick Chamblin and Rachelle offered to be on the committee.

Would be nice to have speakers from all over the state and to also be prepared this time with information for people who would be coming from a distance that needed lodging.

Was suggested we get someone from the Tacoma Narrows Bridge. Dick Chamblin will find out the women who are heading it. STEPS and Reaching out to students could be a workshop.

We need to be clear to contractors and companies on what we will be providing and why they should come.

Bates is going to be doing Skills USA again this year and that might be an area to talk about.

We will be offering teachers Continuing Education Hours credits which hopefully will give them motivation to attend.

Do we want to change the name?

Information will be different this year. Will be able to get info off the website and flyers will be in a better format where people can access it.

Was suggested we send out questionnaires to educators and apprenticeship people to see what has happened over the past year.

Beth was asked about the grant money that is funding the CCE. Money comes from the State Board. In beginning got 2 years of grant money. This winter we will be having an evaluation to see if the Center is doing what it is intended to do. Next grant will be for 4 years.

1. Site visit is on June 9th and we don't know the format yet.
2. Maybe the state board can meet the steering committee.
3. Passed out copies of the survey that will be done.
4. Could be a web based survey that people all over the state can give feed back to.
5. Committee can give feed back on what the state should look for.

Next Steering committee meeting is set up for January 24th, 2005 and we will schedule sub committee meetings before that.

Dick Chamblin commented on how well he feels the Center is doing. Wanted to know if another work plan will be required by the state. Beth does not know at this time.

The next Center of Excellence meeting will be held in Bellingham.

Before meeting was called to adjournment Heather stated again how she is looking forward to working with everyone. She feels a lot of energy within the group. She also shared that she has a lot of activities she is thinking about doing in the coming year. She also is studying at the Aspen Institute and hopes it will be benefit her job.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Cc: Marty Heilstedt

Task List

TASK	WHO IS RESPONSIBLE
Conference sub-committee – Kickoff meeting held 11.7.05; next meeting scheduled Monday, January 9, 2006 from 1pm -3pm	Meeting minutes will be available in December from CCE staff

