



Quarterly Commission

November 19, 2020

10:30am-12:00pm

Locations

Virtual Meeting Via WebEx

Minutes:

Commissioners Present: Marton, Debra; Mathis, Tiffany; Meyers, Jenne; Irwin, Jen; Leonis, Catherine; Clarke, Scott; Gremer, John; Dixon, Jim; Solomon, Steve; Lathan, Howard; Drumgoole, Rosie; Angelis, Jane; Davis, Laura; Greer, John; Copeland, Ami; Brown, Julian; Schuman, Anne; Furlett, Natalie; Long, Shelley; Geenen, Dave.

Staff Present: Samuels, Ayoka; Hanneken, Michelle; Pendergrass, Karen; Davis, Dawn; Esper, Mike; Lomelino, Jordan; Starling, Claire; Kyle, Danielle.

1. Call to Order
 - a. Marton called meeting to order at 10:37am.
2. Roll Call
 - a. Names provided in WebEx chat. Taken by Starling.
3. Approval of the Meeting Minutes
 - a. Marton discussed approval of last meeting's minutes.
 - i. Status of the minutes are unknown as of now. Serve Illinois staff are working to locate them.
4. AmeriCorps
 - i. Irwin gave AmeriCorps Report Update.
 1. Irwin stated the official name change from CNCS to AmeriCorps and Senior Corps to AmeriCorps Senior.
 2. Irwin stated that there is a brand resource and toolkit available online for partners and commissions as well.
 - ii. Irwin gave a Midwest Region Update.
 - iii. Irwin gave a Funding Update.
 1. Lathan asked if there is information available online about diversity equity and Irwin stated that they are in the process of publishing that information currently.
 2. Status of 2021 funding- The Senate approved the FY21 appropriations bill, which is still in resolution.
 3. The Volunteer Generation Fund was awarded in August and is an active grant with a one year status available for continuation.
5. Commission Chair Report
 - i. Individual commissioner and staff introductions.

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6. Committee Reports

a. Finance

i. Clark gave the Finance report.

1. Clark discussed budget commission and staffing needs as well as recent audit reviews from CNCS and the Illinois General.
2. Clark stated that Finance committee has now officially merged with the Governance committee. They will now be known as the Governance and Finance committee.
3. Clark also noted that their commission's meeting minutes were sent to Scott McFarland.

b. Public Relations

i. Leonis typed the report into the chat due to technical difficulties.

1. The committee met and would like to pursue a family volunteer challenge.
2. The committee will also be working with Paul Gregory Media / marketing contractor going forward.

c. Recognition Events

i. Furllett gave the report and noted changes to the calendar for Governor's Service Awards and Hometown Service Awards.

1. Furllett noted that in person recognition is planned for a later date for this year's awardees.

d. State Service and Strategic Plans

i. No report to give.

e. Governance

i. The Governance committee has converged with Finance committee. Their report is detailed above.

f. AmeriCorps Selection

i. Pendergrass gave the report later in the meeting.

g. Serve Illinois Foundation Report

i. Marton gave the report. She noted that Serve Illinois is currently hosting a 3-Part Virtual Webinar Series focusing on the State of Volunteerism and Service in Illinois.

1. The next portion of the series will be on **January 28th** featuring corporate partners and volunteerism work.
- ii. Marton also mentioned that Serve Illinois is working with Paul Gregory Media to highlight volunteerism importance and focusing on their volunteer portal to increase partners. Overall, the foundation is in good standing.

7. Executive Director Report

a. Staff Introductions & Updates

i. Samuels gave a personal introduction and introduced her vision for the foundation.

ii. Samuels gave report focusing on operations within staff. Currently, Samuels is working on a survey with directors and members to better understand how the foundation is serving their needs.

1. Samuels is also conducting partnership review meetings with different agencies that have partnerships with Serve Illinois.

b. Organizational Scan

- i. Samuels noted she will be working with senior leadership, both DPH and DHS partnerships.
- ii. Samuels also noted that she wants to begin reaching out to residents to gauge their knowledge of Serve Illinois and its reach in our communities.
- c. Areas of Focus (short term)
 - i. Relationship building.
 - ii. Increase use of social media and website updates.
 - iii. Different opportunities for visibility within a virtual space.
 - iv. Medical volunteer recruitment.
 - v. Improving fiscal practices.
 - vi. Commissioner recruitment.
 - vii. Learning about the state and DPH, OPR, and AmeriCorps National.
- d. 90 Day Plan
 - i. A progress report will be sent out this week.
 - ii. State Service Plan.
 - iii. Action plan to increase civic engagement and healing through Serve Illinois.
- e. Commissioner Recruitment
 - i. Samuels noted that there are slots available. Samuels and Kyle are working on the status of available slots for commissioners. Currently there is availability for 8 new members, voting and nonvoting.
- f. Commissioner 1 on 1s
 - i. Individual introduction meetings in progress.
 1. Samuels requested possible references if commissioners have individuals in mind.
 2. Corporate communities could be highlighted as well.
- g. AmeriCorps Report
 - i. State & National Grant Applications
 1. Pendergrass introduced staff and highlighted their subject areas of expertise for commissioners.
 2. Pendergrass mentioned grant agreements for the current year- July 1 2020 agreements are wrapping up and will be out to program directors by November 20th for reimbursement.
 3. **State grant application NOFO 21/22 due Dec. 1st.** There is application availability online.
 4. It was noted that commissioners can help by spreading information that will be sent out by Pendergrass.
 5. Geenen asked if a due date extension was considered for this year. Hanneken mentioned that the due dates are set by AmeriCorps and allow little room for changes.
- h. Volunteerism Report
 - i. Hanneken reported on upcoming and current days of service.
 1. Veteran's Week of Service, Nov. 7-14th.
 2. Hanneken noted that **AmeriCorps members are required to participate in days of service and complete a reporting survey by November 23rd.** Upcoming is MLK Day of Service, January 18th.
 - ii. Past days of service- Furllett helped with recognition services/programs.
 1. A committee level decision made to change the dates for the Volunteer Governor Service Awards and Hometown Service Awards.

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2. There is an open application deadline for the Hometown Service Awards- January 15th with the event taking place in the spring. Application nomination forms for the Volunteer Governor's Service Awards can be expected in late April 2021.
 3. The Serve Illinois Volunteer of the Week feature also has availability for volunteer recognition.
- i. Communications Report
 - i. An events calendar was created to share upcoming information for nonprofits, holidays, and months of recognition.
 1. National Service Recognition Day and National Volunteer Week.
 - ii. Public Outreach/Social Media Updates
 1. Commissioners and their organizations should like/follow Serve Illinois social media platforms.
 2. Hanneken noted that Serve Illinois is focusing on bringing attention to the Serve Illinois Linked In and YouTube accounts.
 3. Updates to the Serve Illinois website are currently in progress.
 - iii. Serve Illinois Volunteer Database
 1. Galaxy Digital. Provides non-medical volunteer opportunities.
 - iv. Illinois Helps
 1. Serve Illinois is working on an engagement plan for Illinois Helps to address the high demand for medical volunteers at this time.
8. New Business
 - a. No new business.
 9. Old Business
 - a. No old business.
 10. Adjourn – Marton adjourned the meeting at 12:03

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