

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 5, 2021

4:00 PM-5:00 PM

Locations

Virtual Meeting Via WebEx

Virtual Meeting Credentials:

Provided in Meeting Invitation or contact Danielle Kyle to get link at danielle.kyle@illinois.gov

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call –
 - Steve Solomon
 - Natalie Furllett
 - Ayoka Noelle Mota Samuels
 - Ami Copeland
 - Laura Davis
 - Nisan Chavkin
 - Scott Clarke
 - Senyah Haynes
3. Approval of the Meeting Minutes (from March 16, 2021)
Minutes were approved
4. Commissioner Retreat (Starved Rock, September 2021)
 - During one-on-ones with Commissioners and Ayoka it came up a lot that people really liked the Starved Rock retreat a few years ago.
 - The Commission needs to decide that sooner rather than later so logistics can get under way
 - Steve said yes- good idea, especially with new leadership. We could say “tentatively in-person” due to pandemic
 - Nisan seconded that, however be cautious about Jewish holidays in September, He can help navigate that. * September 22-24 or September 29-October 1 seem to be the best dates; the list of no-go dates are below:
 - Sep 06 | Labor Day
 - Sep 07 | Rosh HaShanah Eve
 - Sep 08 | Rosh HaShanah Day 1

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- Sep 09 | Rosh HaShanah Day 2
 - Sep 15 | Yom Kippur Eve
 - Sep 16 | Yom Kippur
 - Sep 20 | Sukkot Eve
 - Sep 21 | Sukkot Day 1
 - Sep 22 | Sukkot Day 2 *
 - Sep 27 | Shemini Atzeret Eve
 - Sep 28 | Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah
 - Sep 29 | Simchat Torah *
- Ayoka asked should we have a hybrid option.
 - Laura agrees to do it in person, and just navigate as needed based on requirements (COVID) at the time.
 - Nisan thinks a hybrid would not be a good idea. If people can make it, great. If not, that's ok. That has always been the case with the retreat.
 - Natalie says later in the month would be better.
 - A formal meeting will take place at the retreat.
 - Due to OMA, we want to have online access for the public and Commissioners who can't come.
 - There were issues with there being a phone at the lodge before. We need to ask about tech amenities.

5. Full Commissioners' Meeting agenda

Items to include:

- Introduction of new commissioners- 6 new commissioners, 7 slots to be filled. We have all voting members in minus 2 people, who should have paperwork by the end of this month. Remaining new people are non-voting. New members who are not confirmed should be invited to the May 13th meeting. Ashley Nelson (McDonalds) and Allison Angeloni, (Steans Family Foundation). Résumés are needed for some members by the governor's office. Governor's office is looking into true voting records to make sure the group is bipartisan. Looking to see if the bipartisan statute can be lifted since commissioners are not confirmed by the senate. Might be able to just put that portion in the bi-laws about bipartisanship.
- IDPH Vaccine Ambassadors – Juana Ballestros, Manager, Community Public Health Outreach, IDPH- 5-minute presentation as vaccine ambassadors to address hesitancy issues. If people want to connect with her for their own companies she would be the direct contact.
- Commissioner retreat – We will give full board a heads up that it's happening and to block off time.
- PR Committee Report: Branding Presentation (35 minutes including Q & A)- Under Cathy we will have a presentation from Paul Gregory media. Kurt will present findings from branding strategy work. Tagline will be revealed. This will help determine what our position is and our strategy moving forward.
- AmeriCorps- this can be discussed in the committee report. We can include something about the grant proposal review that we need to do in anticipation of the June 7 deadline. This may be an opportunity to draw in commissioners who are more long-term with the program. It doesn't have to be a "big" committee per se, because in a sense everyone is on the AmeriCorps committee.
- In lieu of self-selecting, we could place people on committees and let them stay if they like it, or leave if it's not a fit. This would help with decision-fatigue.

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- Are there people we want to shoulder-tap for particular committees, based on their professions? Natalie asked.
 - Bridget is interested in PR because that's what she does at work, so we will leverage those existing skills.
 - Should we show the onboarding deck at the full meeting? It has a lot of useful information. Answer: We can pass the deck to everyone- it takes about 30 minutes to review so it may be better to pass out in advance. We can have Q & A about it during the meeting if they have reviewed in advance.
 - Ayoka asked if commissioners wanted the Serve Illinois Foundation report to be a standing item. Natalie thinks yes. Nisan said let's see how it goes. Perhaps it should happen with the Executive Committee and on a part-time basis with the full Commissioners Board. Let's see how it goes. Brandon would then participate in the meeting.
 - Ayoka wanted to know if there should be some Basecamp info on agenda. Natalie says understanding of that app is important, however we need to look at the time. Perhaps there will be a lot of questions about AmeriCorps, etc. Basecamp can be a tentative agenda item, and added to the retreat. Nisan offered an alternative- see if there is a market for the assistance, and if so create a designated time. Natalie wanted to know if it is an expectation or if it is just a useful tool- Nisan clarified that it is an expectation. Senyah will send a video- what is important is how to bundle Basecamp chatter so you get one report daily or weekly and that users understand how *not* to respond to all. Scott cautioned against having senior level business community members dig through Basecamp for certain things in the interest of time. Ayoka clarified that if a commissioner asks for something, we will get it to them. We want to change the culture from passing it on to taking it on. Basecamp will then just serve as the repository for such things.
 - Scott asked about the American Rescue Plan and state allocation, etc.. All that information would be of interest. Will that be covered? Yes, as a part of Ayoka's report. She wants to make sure she says what is needed in concert with what Jen Irwin is going to say. Ayoka will also speak to the staffing need and the barriers in funding (3-year) and process to getting the supports needed. Basically, the challenges surrounding the bureaucratic red tape involved for existing vacant positions and beyond.
 - Updates about out legal issues will also take place, but we may have to go off the record at some point.
 - Frankly, there is a domino effect re: lack of staffing. Some assignments have not been completed due to capacity and the impact is felt beyond Serve Illinois, therefore, help may be on the way. Lesson: we're all in this together.
 - Can ASC provide some staff to provide some resources? Scott Queried. It would be good to see comparatively how other agencies across the country are staffed. Someone at ASC might already have a spreadsheet.
6. Updates on Commissioner Committee Preferences
- Updated chart was reviewed.
 - Non-responding Commissioners will be contacted again, individually, with Committee Chairs CC'd.
7. Adjourn