



Commission on Volunteerism
and Community Service
www.Serve.Illinois.gov

Quarterly Commission Meeting

June 7, 2019
9 am – 1:30 pm

Locations

Illinois Department of Public Health
422 S 5th St, Fourth Floor
Springfield, IL

Illinois Department of Public Health
122 S. Michigan Ave, Seventh Floor Room 723
Chicago, IL

Call-in Option:

Dial: 888-494-4032; Access Code: 4037150212#

Commissioners and Staff in Attendance

Springfield – Benanti, Jennifer; Dixon, James; Clarke, Scott;

Chicago – Hosteny, John; Marton, Debra; Chavkin, Nisan; Davis, Laura; Furllett, Natalie; Angelis, Jane;
Gremer, John; Schuman, Anne;

By-Phone – Turnbull, Jeff; Witzel, Jennifer; Copeland, Ami; Dietkus, Rachel; Guinn, Amanda; Mathis,
Tiffany; McGriffin, Adam; Myers, Jenne (Rosie); Brown; Julian; Leonis, Catherine; Silberman,
Steve; Solomon, Steve

Guests – N/A

Staff – McFarland, Scott; Hanneken, Michelle; Esper, James; Haynes; Betty; Touray, Kani; Jallow,
Mariama

Agenda

1. Call to Order
 - a. Debra Marton called the meeting to order at 9:00
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of the March 28, 2019 Meeting Minutes
 - a. Benanti motioned to approve
 - b. Hosteny seconded
 - c. Motioned approved via voice vote
4. McFarland requested to amend today's agenda to begin with AmeriCorps Formula Funding conversation
 - a. Shuman motioned
 - b. Davis seconded
 - c. Motion approved via voice vote
5. AmeriCorps Funding Conversation
 - a. Staff reviewed 50 applications- largest on record
 - b. McFarland provided staff funding recommendations
 - c. There was a discussion concerning Teach for America's funding request
 - d. Chavkin recommended a maximum of 20 members for new programs
 - e. There was a conversation regarding carryover funds
 - f. There was a discussion concerning Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House's funding request
 - g. There was a discussion regarding Waukegan School District's funding request
 - h. Chavkin moved to continue Teach for America's funding as a competitive grant
 - i. Benanti seconded

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- ii. Approved via voice vote
 - i. Benanti motioned to approve staff recommendation 1 with the change to previous Teach for America change and to allow staff discretion to move any remaining funds to other subgrantees that can utilize them
 - i. Dixon seconded
 - ii. Approved via voice vote
 - j. Marton thanked the group for the discussion and appreciated the time taken by staff to put information together
 - k. McFarland informed the group that they just approved the largest portfolio in Illinois history
 - l. Chavkin requested for next year to add column to recommendations that shows previous funding along with a summary of county or municipality- state region in which program is located
6. Executive Director Report – McFarland provided the report
 - a. Federal Budget Update
 - i. Expecting level to increased funding for national service due to continued bi-partisan support in Congress
 - ii. Reviewed a letter from the Commission to Governor Pritzker requesting him not to support CNCS’ transformation plan
 - iii. America’s Service Commissions (ASC) is also looking at alternatives to the current transformation plan
 - b. AmeriCorps Update
 - i. Staff is scheduling site visits
 - ii. New programs will have start-up visits and will visit when members are on the ground, visits will be held for programs considered at-risk
 - iii. AmeriCorps Program Training July 9th-11th
 1. Will be all programs currently funded and programs that were newly funded today
6. Volunteerism Report –Hanneken provided the report
 - a. Serve Illinois just hosted the Central Illinois Volunteerism Conference (CIVC) and Southern Illinois Volunteerism Conference (SIVC)
 - b. Illinois Conference on Volunteer Administration (ICOVA) will be hosted in Chicago on Aug 9th
 - c. Governor’s Hometown Awards nominations are due July 25th
7. Communications Report – Haynes provided the report
 - a. Annual Report is being completed and will be available soon
 - b. Web Report
 - i. Pushing disaster opportunities on social media
 - c. There was a discussion concerning the www.Serve.Illinois.gov website relaunch
 - d. Haynes and McFarland discussed a meeting with Lt. Governor Stratton’s Chief of Staff, Charles Watkins
 - i. The Lt. Governor’s priorities are justice and rural development
8. CNCS Report – Hosteny provided the report
 - a. CNCS has open position opportunities
 - b. 9/11 Day foundation is receiving funding from CNCS and is working with Serve Illinois on a day of service in Chicago
 - c. AmeriCorps*VISTA has a request for proposals open



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- d. Across the nation AmeriCorps*NCCC and FEMA Corps continue to support disaster response efforts
9. Commission Chair Report –Marton provided the report
 - a. Is working to finalize new chairs and committee assignments
10. Committee Reports
 - a. Finance – Clarke provided the report
 - i. Committee hopes to involve Commissioners more in budgeting, financial reviews, and the foundation
 - b. Public Relations –Copeland provided the report
 - i. Committee is working on a revamped marketing plan
 - ii. Plans to reach out to other state agencies
 - c. Recognition Events –Furlett provided the report
 - i. Committee will highlight volunteers and increase commissioner presence at events
 - d. State Service Plan and Strategic Plan – Chavkin provided the report
 - i. Committee will work to produce a 2020-2022 plan by deadline
 - e. Governance – Turnbull provided the report
 - i. Once the committee has membership it will work to define its role
 - f. AmeriCorps Selection– Davis provided the report
 - i. Continue to refine our request for proposals
 - ii. Inclusion of new areas for consideration of grantees
 - g. Serve Illinois Foundation Report
 - i. Schumann provided a financial update
11. Old Business
 - a. No old business
12. New Business
 - a. Hosteny asked if the Commission has a policy regarding marijuana use by AmeriCorps Members now that Illinois is moving towards legalization on January 1, 2020.
 - i. McFarland stated that since AmeriCorps is a federal program, we will continue to operate under federal guidelines. Members may not use or possess marijuana during AmeriCorps time
 - b. Schumann recommend that new name badges be printed for all Commissioners
 - c. The Commission retreat and next meeting will be at Starved Rock State Park in September
 - d. National Service Opening Day is October 10th
13. Adjourn
 - a. Marton adjourned the meeting at 11:30am

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