

Wisconsin National and Community Service Board

Board Meeting Minutes

April 6, 2017

Present: Angela Ahlgrim, Mark Beres, Lisa Delmore, Anthony Hallman, Michael Hinman, Paula Horning, Kate Jaeger, Scott Jones, James Langdon, Susan Schwartz

Not Present: Christine Beatty, Pamela Charles, Scott Fromader, Bob Griffith, India McCause, Amy McDowell, Jane Moore

Staff Present: Jeanne Duffy, Jessica Kessler, Casey Sweeney, Daria Rydzak, Steven Yule

Program Staff Present: John Babbitt, Wisconsin Association for Homeless and Runaway Services; Connie Bettin, Dane County PASS; Brian Blahnik, Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation; Steve Blankenheim, United Way of Dane County- Achievement Connections; Karen Dischler, United Way of Dane County- Schools of Hope AmeriCorps Project; Cally Ehle, Easter Seals of Wisconsin; Steve Frodl, NCCAP AmeriCorps Team- Greater Wausau Area; Emily Greene, United Way of Dane County- Schools of Hope AmeriCorps Project; Donna Lehmkuhl, UW- Eau Claire ECLIPSE; Pat Marcus, Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee; Alexis Matthews, Easter Seals of Wisconsin; Amanda Ross, WI Dept. of Agriculture, Farm to School

Next Meeting: June 8, 2017- Olbrich Botanical Gardens, 3330 Atwood Ave, Madison, WI 53704

Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m. by Board Chair Lisa Delmore.

Introductions

The commission members and Serve Wisconsin staff introduced themselves.

Tribute to Kathy Groat

Anthony Hallman read the State of Wisconsin 2017 Assembly Joint Resolution 15 which can be viewed here: <http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2017/related/proposals/ajr15.pdf>. The resolution honored the life and public service of Kathleen "Kathy" D. Groat. Lisa Delmore detailed the ways in which Kathy impacted the Wisconsin National and Community Service Board and Serve Wisconsin. Anthony Hallman stated that he was grateful to serve with Kathy on the Wisconsin National and Community Service Board for over 10 years.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Meeting Minutes

Angela Ahlgrim made a motion to approve the December 15, 2016 WNCBSB meeting minutes. Second by Paula Horning. Unanimously approved.

Additional Formula RFP

Jessica Kessler updated commissioner on the status of an additional Formula RFP. The Corporation for National and Community Service was going to announce their competitive award funding decisions on April 7, 2017. The announcement will be postponed until a later date due to budget concerns. Serve Wisconsin expects formula funding and will move forward with releasing an RFP for formula funding next week with a due date in mid-May. An RFP for planning grants will be released later in the month with a due date in mid-May.

Commission Investment Fund/Training & Technical Assistance Grant

Jeanne Duffy spoke about how Serve Wisconsin is using the Commission Investment Fund Training and Technical Assistance Grant that they received last year to improve AmeriCorps programs, improve member experience, train staff, and work on program development and recruitment. Daria Rydzak followed up with information on National Service Outreach Summits that were held in March to promote national service to organizations in underserved areas of the state. She also gave information on a Program Development Workshop which will be held on April 18th for organizations looking to develop new AmeriCorps Programs. The board and Serve Wisconsin staff discussed recruitment concerns and how to tie in recruitment with alumni engagement and AmeriCorps Alums.

Governor's Service Recognition Event

Daria Rydzak shared information regarding the upcoming Governor's Service Recognition event to be held before the June 8, 2017 board meeting at Olbrich Botanical Gardens. She requested that board members and programs submit nominations for this special recognition. She also announced that Saira Anwer of NBC 15 will be acting as master of ceremonies for the event.

Bylaws Committee Update

Lisa Delmore spoke on behalf of the Bylaws Committee. The committee will be cleaning up language, evaluating the expired memorandum of understanding (MoU), and defining the roles of DOA and DHS in relation to Serve Wisconsin. The committee will be meeting again in October, and board members will receive an email with more details closer to the date.

State Service Plan

Jeanne Duffy presented the first year results of the Serve Wisconsin 2016-2018 State Service Plan. Objective 1- Action 1: Establish annual aggregate volunteer engagement targets and report the number of episodic and ongoing volunteers engaged. 2016 Results: Target: 10,587 volunteers, Actual: 16,143 volunteers. Objective 1- Action 2: Establish an annual aggregate volunteer hour target and report the number of volunteer hours completed by episodic and ongoing volunteers. 2016 Results: Target: 125,476 hours, Actual: 190,877 hours. Objective 1- Action 3: Annually establish the number of organizations to receive capacity building services that report implementing three or more effective volunteer management practices. 2016 Results: Target: 29 organizations, Actual: 32 organizations. Objective 1- Action 4: Annually establish the number of organizations that will report that capacity building activities supported by national service funding have helped to make the organization more efficient and/or effective. 2016 Results: Target: 28 organizations, Actual: 34 organizations.

In addition to these outcomes, Objective 2- Action 2 (publish and distribute Serve Wisconsin Annual Report) was completed and Objective 2- Action 8 (collaborate with CNCS's Wisconsin State Office to promote national service and volunteerism) has been achieved through face-to-face meetings and collaborations on the National Service Outreach Summits, Mayor and County Recognition Day, and the Governors Service Recognition Event. There are also future plans for educating VISTA and State Programs about each other via conference calls. Objective 3- Action 2 (support efforts to balance the rural and urban AmeriCorps delivery system) is being addressed through the National Service Outreach Summits being targeted to rural areas and potential new program applicants who have statewide reach. Objective 3-Action 5 (expand outreach to seniors to improve collaboration and senior engagement) is being addressed through a current planning grant and potential applicant who is looking to use senior AmeriCorps members to serve senior needs in their area.

The board discussed the potential to hold future board meetings in different locations across the state.

Update from CNCS State Office

Jeanne Duffy read a report from India McCause of the CNCS State Office. Mayor and County Recognition Day was successful in Wisconsin (WI registrations grew by 20%, including 2 WI tribal nations). There are 10 new Foster Grandparent contracts and 5 new VISTA programs in the state. India should be contacted if there are any

project ideas for a National Community Civilian Corps (NCCC) team. The board discussed the Foster Grandparent contract transition and requested more information regarding the results of the transition from India McCaense.

Update from Commission Members

Anthony Hallman contacted elected officials regarding national service and used Twitter to learn more about advocacy in other states. Paula Horning spoke about attending the ASC Convention in Washington DC in February 2017. She encouraged other board members to attend these opportunities in the future and shared highlights from her trip. She mentioned the long term vision of the board and the potential to incorporate private fundraising. The board discussed the legality of the idea and expressed interest in discussing the topic further at the October meeting. Mark Beres will continue to be the designee under the new secretary at DVA. His goal is to facilitate the creation of a national service program involving veterans. He has met with Serve Wisconsin staff and wants to meet with the CNCS State Office and Marshfield Clinic to talk about veterans and national service. Kate Jaeger is willing to share her organization's perspective about being a host site for AmeriCorps members from three programs (Farm to School, Wisconsin HealthCorps, and Public Allies) at meetings and other events. Scott Jones used the DPI Facebook page to promote the Governor's Service Recognition Event. DPI has also changed the format of the Connect Ed newsletter. DPI continues to work on the Every Student Succeeds Act and would like to hear feedback. A draft of the legislation can be found on their website: <http://dpi.wi.gov/esea>. Scott also mentioned upcoming conferences and meetings where Serve Wisconsin could promote AmeriCorps. James Langdon spoke about the Governor's Budget including funds for the Wisconsin National and Community Service Board for the next two years and the appropriation for federal aid for grants.

Update from Program Director Association

Brian Blahnik spoke on behalf of the Program Director Association regarding their most recent meeting at Easter Seals Wisconsin. The association sent an email to commission staff with various questions to address regarding the AmeriCorps Affiliate Program, term limits, unified service gear, speaker's bureau, and recruitment.

Staff Updates

Jeanne Duffy spoke about recent member recruitment and marketing efforts that Serve Wisconsin is currently in the process of implementing along with the new Serve Wisconsin newsletters and monthly update calls. She has enjoyed getting to visit the programs and is looking forward to meeting with the board members. She announced that Jessica Kessler will be leaving her position as a Program Officer at Serve Wisconsin on May 11th.

Jessica Kessler thanked the staff, board, and programs for their hard work during her time at Serve Wisconsin.

Steven Yule spoke about mental health employee assistance programs for AmeriCorps members, his roles on ASC committees, and the success of Serve Wisconsin financial reporting done by an LTE auditor.

Daria Rydzak spoke about member recruitment brochures available to programs.

Casey Sweeney promoted Mayor and County Recognition Day in Dane County. There will be two events: a proclamation being read at the April 6th Dane County Board of Supervisors Meeting, and a presentation by a member at the April 18th Madison Common Council Meeting. Board members, program staff, and AmeriCorps members are invited to attend.

Wisconsin Public Records Law Training

Chris Green from the WI Department of Administration ran through a training exercise on public records. If a board member gets a request for public records, they should forward it to the board chair, who should send it to the DOA public records inbox. Board members should keep records of any board business they do outside of staff meetings or send these records to a Serve Wisconsin staff member for retention. Personal notes do not need to be kept.

Lunch Break: 12:03 pm – 1:01 pm

CNCS Budget Update & Advocacy Training for AmeriCorps and National Service

Tom Branen from America’s Service Commissions (ASC) offered his condolences for Kathy Groat and talked about her service on the ASC Board. He then provided an update on the CNCS budget and a training session on advocacy. Lobbying is defined as asking someone to take action on a piece of legislation. It is not lobbying to share information about programs and their community impact. If current members and program staff want to contact legislators on their own time, it is most powerful to identify as a constituent. Board members are allowed to lobby and educate in whatever way they see fit as long as it is permitted by their employer.

FY 2017 budget request recommends major funding cuts to CNCS programs:

| Program | FY17 President's Proposal | Proposed Cut | FY17 | FY16 Level |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|------|---------------|
| AmeriCorps State and National | \$8 million | \$377 million | | \$386 million |
| AmeriCorps VISTA | \$30 million | \$62 million | | \$92 million |
| Foster Grandparents | \$21 million | \$86 million | | \$107 million |
| RSVP | \$30 million | \$19 million | | \$49 million |
| Senior Companions | \$9 million | \$36 million | | \$45 million |
| National Service Trust | \$50 million | \$170 million | | \$220 million |
| Social Innovation Fund | \$0 | \$50 million | | \$50 million |

Board Retreat & Future Meetings

June 8, 2017- Olbrich Botanical Gardens
October 12, 2017
December 14, 2017

Adjourn

Anthony Hallman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:05 p.m. Second by Angela Ahlgrim. Motion passed unanimously.