

DC Commission for National and Community Service

Commission Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 9, 2018; 6:30 PM

This meeting took place virtually via GoToMeeting.

Call to Order: Delano called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM

Roll Call

Amy Cohen
Barbara Cline
Carolina Celnik
Charice Roper-Williams
Gail Oliver
Joshua Johnson
Lars Etzkorn
Rochelle Howard
Saran White
Sharon Riegsecker
Louis Davis
Lauren Waldron

Reading of Past Meeting Minutes

Delano Hunter mentioned that minutes for the January 2018 meeting can be found online at www.serve.dc.gov.

Formula Competition Grant Updates

Pamela provided an overview of the Formula Application. The maximum an organization is allowed to request for a full-time member is \$14,932. If you have ten members then the maximum amount one can receive is \$149,320. All applicants are not requesting full-time members. Members can only spend 10% of their time on fundraising and 20% of their time on professional development. They cannot write grants to the federal government.

Brief Summary of Logic Models

Earth Conservation Corps (ECC) is requesting for 6 reduced half-time members. ECC falls under environmental stewardship and also under workforce development and skill building.

Neighborhood Association Corporation (NAC) is a former Volunteer Generation Fund grantee and they are requesting for 8 quarter time members. They are requesting \$29,864. Their members will teach low-income residents' money101 which is a financial literacy focused on savings accounts.

826DC is looking for two halftime members. They had Vista members previously. They put in an application at the last minute.

Teens Run DC is a re-competing application. Serve DC has funded them for 3 years and they fall under the healthy future area. Their members work with low-income students to run after school.

For those applicants that are invited to submit a full application, they will be asked to give a synopsis of their program during the presentation. This is an opportunity for the agency to talk about their program. Presentations are usually held in the evening. The dates and times for this cycle are TBD.

Pamela also gave an overview of subgrantees not applying for funds next year. Playworks has lost funding and will not have enough to support their match. AARP Foundation has challenges in the recruitment of members. AARP will focus on their national direct fund. The Fishing School will be restructuring their program and will not be applying for the program next year.

Delano mentioned that between the monitoring and compliance, the progress expense reports and the technical assistance that it's a lot for ¼ of the staff funded by CNCS to manage everything.

Commissioner Charice Roper-Williams thanked commissioners for being on call and also gave an overview of the time she spent learning about the competitive applicants during the presentation period. She encourages all commissioners to participate so that they can learn more about the grant processes.

Commissioner Lauren Waldron had a question about whether two organizations doing similar work can partner and Pamela answered that all programs have different philosophies. Serve DC funds 3 or 4 early literature programs. There isn't one right answer to a problem. A school may prefer to have Jumpstart for Young Children over the AARP Foundation because they may prefer to have college students working with students rather than seniors.

Commissioner Gail Oliver agreed with Pamela's point.

Delano mentioned that Serve DC is always open to recommendations from commissioners regarding organizations interested in AmeriCorps.

Center for Inspired Teaching may be a competitive grant this year.

Volunteer Reception Center Overview

Sareeta provided an overview of the Volunteer Reception Center that will take place on April 28th from 10AM-4PM. Serve DC will participate in Americas Preparathon Day. This is a FEMA Initiative to get families prepared for emergencies. The Volunteer Reception Center will be the central headquarters where data and information will be processed and where volunteers will receive their deployment assignments. Serve DC will have a full day of training. Delano will share the flyer electronically.

Recent Accomplishments and Recent Events

Khadija gave an overview of the Recent Accomplishments and Recent Events. Overview that was read is as follows-

2.6.2018 | Serve DC volunteered at King Elementary with Martha's Table. We helped to distribute fresh produce and groceries to King Elementary students and their families.

2.22.2018 and 2.24.2018 | Mayor Muriel Bowser hosted 3 budget engagement forums held across the district (UDC, Kramer Middle School, and Watkins Elementary School). Mayor Bowser shared her administrations' priorities and investments.

3.10.2018 | DC AmeriCorps Leadership Council celebrated "AmeriCorps Week" at Bus Boys & Poets. Over 50 AmeriCorps Members attended the event and participated in an open mic by sharing their AmeriCorps stories and experiences.

Upcoming Events

4.7.2018 | Petalpalooza (National Cherry Blossom Festival) | Wharf Street SW, 20024|All day

4.10.2018 | Joyful Food Market | King Elementary School, 3200 6th Street SE, 20032|2:00PM-6:00PM

4.14.2018 | Emancipation Day Celebration 2018| Freedom Plaza between 13th and 14th Street NW| Time TBD|

4.26.2018| DC AmeriCorps Leadership Council Career Fair| 2000 14th ST NW, 20009| 6:00PM-8:00PM|

5.12.2018| DC Funk Parade | Meet at Howard Theater, 620 T ST NW, 20001|3:00PM-6:00PM|

6.9.2018| Capital Pride Parade | 22nd and P ST NW, 20036 | 4:00PM-6:30PM|

7.4.2018 Palisades 4th of July Parade| Time and Location TBD|

7.4.2018 Barracks Row 4th of July Parade |Time and Location TBD|

7.10.18-7.21.18| CERT Summer Sessions| 2000 14th ST NW, 20009| 6:00PM-9:00PM; 9:00AM-1:00PM|

More information on the registration and details of these events can be found on volunteer.dc.gov

Delano received over 1000 emails for the March for Our Lives event from individuals who voiced their passion and opposition. Serve DC is establishing itself as an office for out-of-state volunteers looking for high quality opportunities. Commissioner Lars Etzkorn had a question about the resources used to hold such events. He appreciates the facilitation of big crowds but thinks that we should think carefully of people who want to use us to push their agenda. He mentioned that we should continue to be welcoming and ensure that mayhem doesn't occur.

Delano talked about upcoming travels in the beginning of the month and a peer exchange with Serve Vermont on Sunday May 13th through Monday 14th to Waterbury Vermont to observe their meeting with staff and commissioners. Serve Vermont has been identified as a high performing commission.

There will be a Joyful Food Market on Tuesday, April 10th and also one in May and a couple in June.

Commission Election

3 people indicated interest in serving as officers. Ideally meetings should be run by the officers. Serve DC will provide administrative help. Brandon Andrews was nominated for a Chair Person, and Jessica Hunt and Charice Roper-Williams both want to serve as Vice Chairs. The Treasury and the Secretary positions are both vacant. The Google Form to vote for the Vice Chair positions will be sent this week. The commission bylaws are 17 years old. Serve DC has not found recent versions of it, so in the meantime we will continue to abide with the 2001 bylaw.

Commissioner Brandon Andrews gave an overview of the different committees. He will follow-up via email with the commissioners regarding the election and committee calls and assignments.

Commission Updates

Commissioner's Roundtable

Commissioner Lauren Waldron provided information on her March for Dimes fundraiser. The event will take place on April 22nd. She will send the donation link for the fundraisers to all of the commissioners. The event will be at the RFK stadium and registration begins at 9AM. The donations will go to support children from low-income households who need assistance with healthcare and resources.

Commissioner Rochelle Howard spoke about the March for our Lives event and how MPD worked in collaboration with volunteers to monitor the event. Her office did not find any issues with the way the event was handled.

Commissioner Gail Oliver who is the Executive Director for Damien Ministries will host a Matter of Pride event on May 21st. Her office is soliciting for volunteers. She will send the flyer electronically.

Commissioner Saran White from The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) spoke about the recent Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018 where CNCS received \$1,063,958,000 for FY 2018. She also asked whether she should contact Congresswoman Eleanor Norton Holmes for future collaborations.

Meeting adjourned.