

## **DC Commission on National and Community Service**

Commission Meeting Minutes  
Monday, April 11, 2016; 6:30 pm  
Serve DC Office, Reeves Center, Suite 101

### **Call to Order**

Chair Love called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

### **Roll Call**

Justine Love  
Brandon Andrews  
Gail Oliver  
Joshua Johnson  
Lars Etkorn  
Amy Cohen  
Peter Sacco  
Saran White

Chair Love commended the Serve DC team for their work on putting together the 2016 Mayor's Community Service Awards and Mayor's Day of Recognition for National Service. She also commended Commissioner Andrews for his work as the host of the event.

### **Reading of Past Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Etkorn made a motion to approve the January 2016 meeting minutes. Commissioner Sacco seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0).

### **State Service Plan**

Pamela Weinberg, Serve DC's AmeriCorps Program Director, said that Serve DC is looking to revise its three year state service plan. She said that Serve DC was hoping to do this before the next competitive application process begins.

Commissioner Etkorn asked if Serve DC was envisioning that there would be substantive changes to the state service plan. Ms. Weinberg said that Serve DC was more engaged with guiding the state service plan formulation process instead of stating what exactly will be in the state service plan. She added that Serve DC would be soliciting extensive feedback from all key stakeholders regarding the details of the state service plan.

Commissioner Andrews asked if the state service plan would be finalized by the next commission meeting. Ms. Weinberg said that she would check with Delano Hunter, the Director of Serve DC, to see if it would be finalized by then.

Commissioner White gave an overview of the Corporation for National and Community Service's (CNCS) and America's Service Commission's (ASC) recent regional service conferences. She said that the next conference for Serve DC's region would be in Springfield, MA. Chair Love asked Ms. Weinberg if she could find out more information about the conference to see if one of the Serve DC commissioners would be able to attend.

### **Formula Grant Updates**

Ms. Weinberg said that six organizations had attended a recent technical training session for the upcoming formula grant process, and that there was an additional training session being held soon.

Commissioner Etzkorn was wondering if the organizations that have participated in the formula grant process thus far were all education-focused. Ms. Weinberg said that most of the organizations are. She listed out the organizations that have participated thus far.

Ms. Weinberg said that Serve DC will be receiving the logic models for new and re-competing applications soon, and that she will then send the models out to the commissioners. She encouraged the commissioners to send her feedback on the logic models. She also encouraged the commissioners to get involved in the formula grant peer review process.

Commissioner Andrews asked if the peer review process would be scheduled for a particular day or if the commissioners would be able to take the applications home and review them on their own time. Ms. Weinberg said that the commissioners would have several days to review the applications during the peer review process. Commissioner Andrews said that he would follow up with the commissioners after the meeting to encourage them to get more involved in the peer review process.

Commissioner Andrews asked if there were any indications from the Mayor's Office that they would like to make changes to the formula grant plan. Ms. Weinberg said that there had not been any indications.

### **Upcoming Events**

Khadija Ismail, Serve DC's Executive Assistant, gave an overview of the work that Serve DC was doing in preparation for Global Youth Service Day. Chair Love recommended that Serve DC create more social media posts for Global Youth Service Day.

Ms. Ismail also gave an overview of the work that Serve DC was doing to collaborate with other organizations to plan service projects for Earth Day.

Commissioner Andrews said that Mr. Hunter was working with DC's Office of Partnerships and Grant Services to see if the commissioners would be able to solicit in-kind and monetary donations for Serve DC and AmeriCorps initiatives.

### **Committee Updates**

#### **Community Development Committee**

Commissioner Andrews said the committee has a plan for securing resources and donations, which could be incorporated into the new state service plan.

#### **Volunteer Recognition Committee**

Commissioner Andrew said that the committee's main focus has been on planning the Mayor's Community Service Awards. He said that the committee's next conference call will focus on ways to further recognize more volunteers who are doing great work in DC.

#### **Programming and Evaluation Committee**

Commissioner Andrews said that the committee's recent meeting included a positive discussion on how to encourage new organizations to apply for the competitive grant process.

### **New Business and Announcements**

Commissioner Andrews said that the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) has offered to have CNCS staff, and possibly Wendy Spencer, the Chief Executive Officer of CNCS, attend an upcoming commission meeting to talk about ways to break down barriers between CNCS and the state commissions.

### **Adjournment**

Chair Love adjourned the meeting at 7:22 pm.