

AGENDA	DIALOGUE	ACTION ITEMS
I. Chair Kevin Myhre called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.		
a. Roll Call	<p><u>Commission Members Present:</u> Chair Kevin Myhre, Danette Rector, Karin Olsen Billings, Eric Strauss, Holter Bailey.</p> <p><u>Commission Members on phone:</u> Heather Margolis, Charles Wetherington, Jackie Girard.</p> <p><u>Commission Members Excused:</u> Vice Chair Rebecca Harbage, Sandra Jones, Jim Larson, Chantel Schieffer, Barbara Braided-Hair.</p> <p><u>Staff and Guests Present:</u>            OCS - Dan Ritter, Sarah Sadowski, Sheree Isola, Andy Bixler, Kris MacIntyre            Energy Corps - Emily Caponi (phone), MLSA – Meghan Scott, Marissa Rivera.</p>	
b. Approval of Oct. 12, 2017 Minutes	Commissioner Olsen-Billings moved to approve the minutes, Holter Bailey seconded. The motion approved by acclamation.	Oct. 12, 2017 Minutes approved
c. Announcements	<p>Dan Ritter introduced new board member Commissioner Eric Strauss from the Dept. of Labor. He also announced that the congressional budget has not been approved and there is a two week extension to the current Continuing Resolution until Dec. 22.</p> <p>Jan. 17 – Competitive application goes to CNCS, with awards anticipated in late May or June.</p> <p>There are 3 commission vacancies still open that will hopefully be filled by March 2018.</p> <p>State Service Plan will be redone in 2018 for 2019-2021.</p> <p>First half of the 2018 Commission Support Grant has been granted.</p>	
d. Commissioner Reports	Holter Bailey: working with on-campus project of adopting a family/adopt a veteran. Currently they have 25 families and 45	

	<p>veterans who they are providing Christmas gifts for.</p> <p>Commissioner Strauss: currently working with Habitat for Humanity. They have 13 houses for next year and are looking for applicants.</p> <p>Commissioner Margolis: working with Bozeman Elementary Schools for local food bank. Also involved with “Women Who Wine” philanthropy project.</p> <p>Chair Myhre: continuing to work with park project in downtown Lewistown. Hoping for a completion date by next September.</p> <p>Commissioner Rector: sits on Friends of Irish Studies Board and they are currently working on a fundraising project to fund a Chair.</p> <p>Commissioner Wetherington: volunteer activities have been with United Way, Best Beginnings Billings supporting the 95% graduation rate by 2025 mandate, supporting the school attendance initiatives and reading on grade level by grade 3 initiatives.</p>	
<p>II.CNCS State Office Update</p>	<p>The AmeriCorps VISTA Marketing Department located in DC is developing a video to showcase VISTA projects around the U.S. The Billings Metro VISTA Project was one of three chosen along with AZ and NY to be highlighted in video. The Billings Blue VISTA project which supports Veterans, will be highlighted in the video. Carl Higbie, CNCS Chief of External Affairs, was on site during the filming of the video in Billings, and met with veterans and VISTA members.</p> <p>Barbara Stewart has been appointed as the new CEO of the Corporation for National and Community Service, but has not yet been confirmed by Congress.</p> <p>The Montana Campus Compact is preparing for upcoming MLK events. If Commissioners are interested, please contact Director Ritter or Sarah Sadowski.</p> <p>Forty new VISTA members will start service in January with orientation held on Jan. 23-25 in Billings, MT – Governor Bullock will be swearing these members into service on January 25th.</p>	

	<p>The Montana CNCS office is interested in developing national service projects that will focus on substance abuse prevention to fight opioid abuse. We are asking Commissioners to look around their communities to see if there are organizations that may be interested in support from a National Service program. For resources and more information, Commissioners should contact CNCS State Director, Jackie Girard at 406-449-5404.</p>	
<p>II. Commission Strategic Outreach Work Group Report</p>	<p>Commissioner Margolis announced that they are looking to expand the Strategic Outreach Work Group. Next step may be to send out a survey after first of year to all Commissioners. Would love input on how Commissioners can raise awareness to highlight National Service in MT and/or to offer special recognition for someone in your community. If interested, please let Commissioner Margolis know. Next call will be in late January or February and results will be shared at March meeting. Those willing to help are: Jackie Girard, Commissioner Wetherington, Commissioner Strauss.</p>	
<p>IV.</p>		
<p>a. ServeMontana</p>	<p><u>Governor and First Lady Youth Leadership Council</u>  Twenty students from 17 communities across Montana met November 17 in the Governor’s Reception Room to learn about food insecurity in Montana, discuss ways to end childhood hunger; receive training in project management, outreach, and volunteer recruitment and have lunch with the Governor, First Lady, and Lieutenant Governor! We’re thankful for financial backing from Youth Service America and First Interstate Bank. Began planning projects for Fight Childhood Hunger Week, next April 16-22, 2018, visit <a href="http://www.fightchildhoodhunger.com">www.fightchildhoodhunger.com</a>  <u>Youth ServeMontana Scholarship</u>  Applications opened November 1 for up to 100 \$1,000 scholarships for high school seniors attending MTCC member institutions who have completed at least 100 hours of community volunteer service</p>	

	<p>over the past year. The scholarship is being promoted on Facebook with a paid ad and OCS has received 2 applications so far. Grateful for support from partners, Montana Campus Compact and Reach Higher Montana</p> <p><u>Serve Awards</u></p> <p>Nominations open January 1, and run through March 31, 2018.</p> <p>Workgroup members include: Commissioners Olsen Billings, Rector, and Girard, and citizen Tracy Kenyon, CEO Montana Credit Unions.</p>	
b. Financial	<p>Sheree Isola reported that the Commission Support Grant budget was submitted with the continuation grant request in November. OCS is working with DLI to determine the consequences of the Special Legislative Session budget cuts. In 2018 Sheree and OCS will track in-kind contributions by Commissioners more closely so be sure to complete a form at each meeting. Sheree is available for questions.</p>	
c. AmeriCorps	<p>Sarah Sadowski, Grants Manager, reported that Justice For Montanans, Montana Energy Corps, Montana Campus Compact AmeriCorps, and two new programs, Richland County Health Department and 100 Fold Corps have all started their program years in recent months. Montana State Parks, Big Sky Watershed Corps and MCC all recently completed their program years and are recruiting for January start dates. OCS will continue to invite Commissioners to participate in program events. OCS has convened a ServeMontana Symposium Planning Committee for the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium March 7-9, 2018.</p> <p>Martin Luther King Jr Day is a National Day of Service so please join us in participating in the statewide service project called Read for Peace, more info, <a href="http://www.mtcompact.org/mlkreadforpeace/">http://www.mtcompact.org/mlkreadforpeace/</a></p>	
V. New Business		
a. Competitive Grant Review Workgroup Recommendation	<p>Commissioner Margolis reported that Competitive Review grants are a great way to learn what we are doing in National Service. They are scored by a committee and sent on to the Corporation for</p>	Competitive Grant Proposal Approved

	National and Community Service. Montana will submit 4 continuation grants and 1 renewal grant. Chair Myhre asked if everyone had read through the recommendations. Commissioner Rector moved to approve the Competitive Grant Proposal and Commissioner Olsen-Billings seconded.	
VI. Public Comment	Marissa Rivera from DC introduced herself and said she is currently a Justice For Montanans AmeriCorps member serving with Disability Rights in Montana to aid people in need access the legal system and provides information.	
VII. Adjourn	The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for March 7, 2018.	

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