



Commission Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2020

Carroll College, Maroneck Board Room

10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

AGENDA	DIALOGUE	ACTION ITEMS
I. Chairman Myhre called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.		
a. Roll Call	<p><u>Commission Members Present:</u> Chairman Myhre, Vice Chair Harbage, Eric Strauss, Amy Busch, Karen Moses, Karin Olsen-Billings, Kevin Sylvester, Rachel Juel, Donovan Hawk, Andrea Surratt, Tara Ferriter-Smith, Pam Carbonari, Heather Margolis</p> <p><u>Commission Members on phone:</u> Jim Larson</p> <p><u>Commission Members Excused:</u> Amy Unsworth</p> <p><u>Guests and Staff Present:</u> Joe Naiman-Sessions and Seth Shteir, Montana State Parks AmeriCorps, OCS Director Dan Ritter, Sarah Sadowski, Sheree Isola, Lisa Dorrington, Jaime Gabrielli</p>	
b. Opening Activity/Group Photo	Introductions and activity. Group photo of present commissioners and Director Ritter	
c. Approval of December 12, 2019 Minutes	Commissioner Strauss moved to approve the minutes, Vice Chair Harbage seconded. The motion was approved by acclamation.	December 12, 2019 Minutes approved
d. Announcements	Director Dan Ritter – In the President’s budget, CNCS is budgeted for orderly shutdown, OCS continues to follow the process as it moves through Congressional appropriations. Director Ritter will provide updates. Discussed ASC Commissioner “Opt In” letter in support of AmeriCorps. All Commissioners opted into ASC letter.	Commissioner Margolis will email link for ASC signon letter.
e. Commissioner Reports and Updates – Volunteer engagements	Commissioner Strauss shared story of a youth making the half-time shot at recent Cat/Griz game. With the \$11,000 reward, the young man is starting a nonprofit called “Equip Montana” that will provide opportunities and equipment for small schools. Chair Myre announced the Lewistown Trails Group is attempting to find a volunteer to fill the vacant position of Treasurer. Commissioner Ferriter-Smith shared that the Health Enhancement	

	Division at her office volunteered to judge State Speech and Debate tournament recently. Commissioner Moses the Young Families Early Head Start board held a diaper drive and they are now fully supplied in all sizes. Commissioner Hawk shared details of the successful community efforts that raised 12K for water wells in Ghana.	
f. Nominations for bi-annual chair election	Commissioner Larsen moved that Chair Myhre and Vice Chair Harbage remain in their current positions. Seconded by Commissioner Olsen-Billings. Motion to Reappoint was approved by acclamation.	Chair Myhre and Vice Chair Harbage reappointed.
II. CNCS Regional Office Update	CNCS Rep. ex-officio, Amy Busch shared they are in the second phase of Transformation Sustainability Plan after the transition to regional offices and thinks the final phase will be implemented in June/July 2020. Currently identifying best practices and ways to simplify and streamline processes and asking for feedback on issues/problems. CNCS also in process of rebranding that should finalize in July 2020. Asking for feedback on NSCHC rules through 3/9/20 on criminal history and background checks system. Mountain Region office update: North team (MT, ID, WY) visiting states and gathering information to help ensure processes are the same and streamlined. Senior Corps state meeting in Billings next month. Missoula RSVP activated Emergency Call Operation Center with volunteers managing phone lines. More volunteers are needed – Health Dept. will train. Senior Corps volunteer stipend increasing from \$2.65 to \$3.00/hr. There are close to 1,000 Senior Corps members in MT. We have lost several MT Senior Corps programs – asked group to think of organizations to engage.	
III. Governor’s Office of Community Service Updates		
a. ServeMontana, Director Ritter	Director Ritter shared there are currently 44 nominations submitted for the 2020 ServeMontana Awards. Ceremony planned for June 5 at the Capitol. We received 98 applications for the \$1,000 Youth Serve Montana Scholarship; winners will be notified in April. The Gift of Life Awards ceremony will be April 24 at 11 a.m. in room 303 at the Capitol with lunch to follow. Commissioners are encouraged to attend. Youth Leadership Council members will be holding events and fundraisers during Fight Childhood Hunger Week (4/13-4/19) Requested support for YLC events in your communities next month.	

b. AmeriCorps, Sarah Sadowski	OCS submitted packages for competitive grant review on Jan. 8. Expect to hear about approvals by May 1. MLK National Day of Service was a great success with Read for Peace events taking place in schools throughout the state. Staff attended orientations for BSWC, MCC Central Divide, and MSPA members, providing training and civic reflection. All full-time positions are filled and recruitment for less than full-time members serving various terms. Participating in “Brand Pie” think tank group to give feedback to CNCS about the rebranding efforts. Asking programs for comments for CNCS regarding criminal history checks. Next week Planning Grant announcement – staff and travel only. No allocation yet, with difficulties due to last minute calendar changes on timeline with the hope that programs will not face future delays. Programs not funded competitively will look at Formula option. Staff attending ASC regional training in NM at the end of March.	
c. Fiscal, Sheree Isola	Fund Balance Report has been sent to each commission member for review.	
IV. New Business		
a. Quarter two meeting date, Director Ritter	Announced a need to alter schedule and move June Commission Meeting to May 14 to have commission input after Planning Formula Grant Work Group on May 6.	
b. Formula Grant Review Workgroup formation, Director Ritter	Asked for volunteers for Formula Grant Review workgroup who are available all day May 6. Grants are due to OCS April 9, with binders going out to workgroup members the 3 rd week of April. Each member reviews and individually scores each applicant and attends all-day review on May 6 with applicants present to conduct consensus scoring and ranking of the applicants.	Vice Chair Harbage, Commissioner s Ferriter-Smith, Commissioner Juel volunteered. Commissioner Olsen-Billings (maybe)
c. OCS Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (DEI) Statement, Sarah Sadowski	Took part in DEI-focused training with ASC. Goal of six-month-long training was to develop DEI statement for OCS and programs. OCS DEI statement provided to members. Commissioner Carbonari made a motion for the DEI statement to be accepted, Commissioner Moses seconded. Motion approved by acclamation.	OCS DEI Statement Accepted
VI. Public Comments	Joe Naiman-Sessions, MSPA, extended invitation to commission for Lewis and Clark Cavern’s 50 th Earth Day event, April 11 at 9 a.m. MSPA will find out soon if they get NCCC team.	

VII. Adjourn	The meeting adjourned at 11:51 a.m. The next meeting will be May 14 at the Capitol. Commissioner lunch provided at Carroll College	
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