



The **purpose** of the Utah Commission on Service and Volunteerism is to enable individuals, communities and organizations in Utah to benefit from the service, power, skills, and passion of volunteers. Our **mission** is to strengthen Utah communities through the power of service and volunteerism. Our **vision** is vibrant, productive communities with active, engaged citizens.

Minutes

COMMISSION MEETING

May 17th, 2018

2:00 – 4:00 PM

Capitol Board Room

ATTENDEES

Commissioners

Debbie Hardy
Jacob Murakami
Jill Love
Melissa Fromm
Paul Leggett
Alan Griffin
Todd Hansen
David Clark
Richard Gonzalez
Kris Hamlet
Rep. Becky Edwards
Debra Hoyt
Karen McCandless

Staff

LaDawn Stoddard
Greg Bates
Mary Buehler
Corynn Benoit
Ruqia Qasim
Sara Dorsey

Visitors

Kirsten Rappley
Jennifer Thronsen
Matt Christensen

WELCOME/GOVERNANCE – DEBBIE HARDY

Motion to approve March minutes made by Paul Leggett. Seconded by Richard Gonzalez. Vote carried unanimous.

POWER OF SERVICE AWARD

Sandra Christensen was not able to attend this meeting. She will be awarded at our next commission meeting in July.

AMERICORPS PROGRAM REPORT

Matt Christensen and Jennifer Thronsen presented the Read.Graduate.Succeed AmeriCorps program.

ANNUAL REPORT REVIEW- DEBBIE HARDY

Commissioners received a copy of UServeUtah's 2017 annual report. An electronic copy will be available on UServeUtah's website. Commissioners are welcome to request more copies from us for distribution to other community members. Our annual report will be distributed to our AmeriCorps programs, community partners, and counterpart commissions across the country. LaDawn can provide electronic links to our counterpart commissions' annual reports if requested.

DIRECTOR UPDATES- LADAWN STODDARD

Strategic Plan Dashboard: LaDawn went over the dashboard which contains key performance indicators. She talked specifically about the ones that are currently at the yellow stage. Here are some highlights: Under “Develop a structure for national service resource use in disaster and emergency support”- we’re working on developing the AmeriCorps disaster corps for the state. We’re working on getting all the AmeriCorps programs’ contracts for year 2018-2019 updated to include language that allows us to re-divert AmeriCorps members in the event of disasters.

Under “Increased utilization of skills based volunteers”- We’d like more businesses to respond to the Employee Volunteer Program surveys, but we’re going to move forward with creating focus groups to further this research process in the next couple of months.

Under “support program recruitment to improve the quality and number of AmeriCorps candidates”- We’re one short of where the target should be, but there’s no issue in being on track with this goal.

Under “Recognition of outstanding volunteers”- We’re anticipating on distributing a significant amount of certificates in the fall to Utah Philanthropy Day, and Girls Scouts of Utah volunteers. We continue to promote this more on our social media outlets and share it with volunteer coordinators and community partners. We would like commissioners to let us know of any other organizations who would benefit from this opportunity to recognize their volunteers, and have our recognition program incorporated as part of their volunteer recognition process. Jill mentioned museum directors, and libraries would benefit from this, and Paul mentioned that he would like to get his senior volunteers recognized through this program.

LaDawn opened up a discussion about recognizing business employee volunteer programs with the volunteer recognition certificate or the power of service award. Commissioners shared their thoughts and are on board to recognize businesses with the power of service award two to three times a year. By next commission meeting, we will present a draft of what the criteria will look like, and move forward with that process.

2018 Fiscal Year Appropriation: The 2018 fiscal year appropriation at the federal level was passed. We received additional resources; our commission support grant was increased by 15 thousand dollars, and our formula funding grant increased by 140 thousand dollars.

Commissioner Vacancies: We’re looking to fill two positions; a representative of local government, and a representative of labor. LaDawn would like commissioners to send her suggestions.

Monthly Commissioner Highlight: We would like to start a social media campaign highlighting our commissioners. Sara is going to send out a google form of questionnaires that she’d like all commissioners to fill out.

Utah Campus Compact: As of July 1st, Campus Compact will no longer exist. The AmeriCorps program that is a part of Campus Compact will transition to Utah State University. We are looking to help support the continuation of some initiatives Campus Compact is involved in. The Commission on Character and Civic Education is providing funds to those initiatives, and they’ve allowed us to become the fiscal agent for those initiatives. The funding supports four initiatives, and one of those is a program that we’ve partnered with them before- and continue to- called Active Engagement Retreat. This program brings college students and AmeriCorps members together for a three day workshop/activities event every year. The Community Engagement team is going to take the lead on coordinating this endeavor.

Disaster Training: Greg and LaDawn will be attending a disaster training next month that is hosted by CNCS in Vicksburg, Mississippi. The training is specific for Commission staff and focuses on the role of state service commissions in the event of disasters.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee reports for National Service and Community Engagement programs were included in the commissioner packets. Here are a few highlights: The NS team is preparing for the formula grant process. Funds will be appropriated, 15 applications have been sent in, and only 11 need be reviewed as we're streamlining this year. Applications in their grant continuation process will not be reviewed by the review committee. The grant review meeting will be held at Rio Grande on June 13th. **Todd motioned to authorize the formula grant review committee to select and approve the applicants for formula grant funding. Paul seconded the motion, all were in favor.**

CE: The volunteer management trainings have been a success this year, there is going to be one more held in Lehi in early December of this year. Data of the Employee volunteer programs surveys was presented at the CE committee meeting. The next step is to conduct focus group meetings, and identify who should be involved in those focus groups. **Debbie motioned to assign Paul as the chair for the CE committee. Alan seconded the motion, all were in favor.**

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Jake: Recently, CNCS had a hearing from the House Committee on Education and Labor about concerns of internal management. There have been 1.2 million dollars in disallowance costs due to criminal history checks not being done in a timely manner, or correctly. The main focus for the next couple of months is to support sub grantees in making sure they are in compliance with this rule. Jake shared the 2017 AmeriCorps VISTA statistics: about 100 individuals were enrolled as full time VISTA members engaging over 16,000 volunteers serving over 100,000 hours in our communities. This resulted in over 49,000 youth receiving service as a result of VISTA members' capacity building services. 137 organization received capacity building services in our state. Over 2 million of cash grants, and other resources to support anti-poverty programming, and an additional 3.1 million of in kind resources. New programs as of May 2018: A new project has been developed with the Thayne center of Salt Lake Community College focusing on student hunger issues. There are food pantries on campuses available for students who are struggling with this. Utah State University has worked with Utah Conservation Corps on this issue, and so has the Bennion Center of the University of Utah. Catholic Community Services has a new housing project for the homeless. This project will help homeless people move into stable housing, and find employment. An Opioid project was developed with southwest behavioral health. This is going to impact the five county areas of southwestern Utah.

Alan: The State Board of Education is registered as a certifying organization for the Presidential Service Awards.

Richard: Utah System of Higher Education (USHE) is doing recaps of high school graduation commencements. Visit USHE's website for more information

Jill: The department of Heritage and Arts (DHA) and USHE partnered to create a college night for high school students. Students were exposed to arts and culture, and what the next steps are for their education. Around 2100 students from title one schools were given the opportunity to attend the Hamilton play. Students came from remote places, and the event was a huge success. DHA has developed a department wide initiative called Creative Communities. This initiative focuses on developing an index where the impact of arts and culture on Utah communities can be measured. Jill shared: a legislature shared that a high school student that is exposed to one arts and culture event is 20% more likely to volunteer, and is 20% more likely to vote.

Paul: One of the initiatives that the Alzheimer's Association Board is working on is connecting as many people as possible with resources around dementia and Alzheimer's. There are many resources on how to care for a loved one with Alzheimer's or dementia, and Paul is going to share those resources with commissioners to spread the word.

Todd: Todd is going to serve as president of the Draper temple in Utah. Due to his new assignment, he will no longer have the capacity to serve as a commissioner.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned by Debbie Hardy.